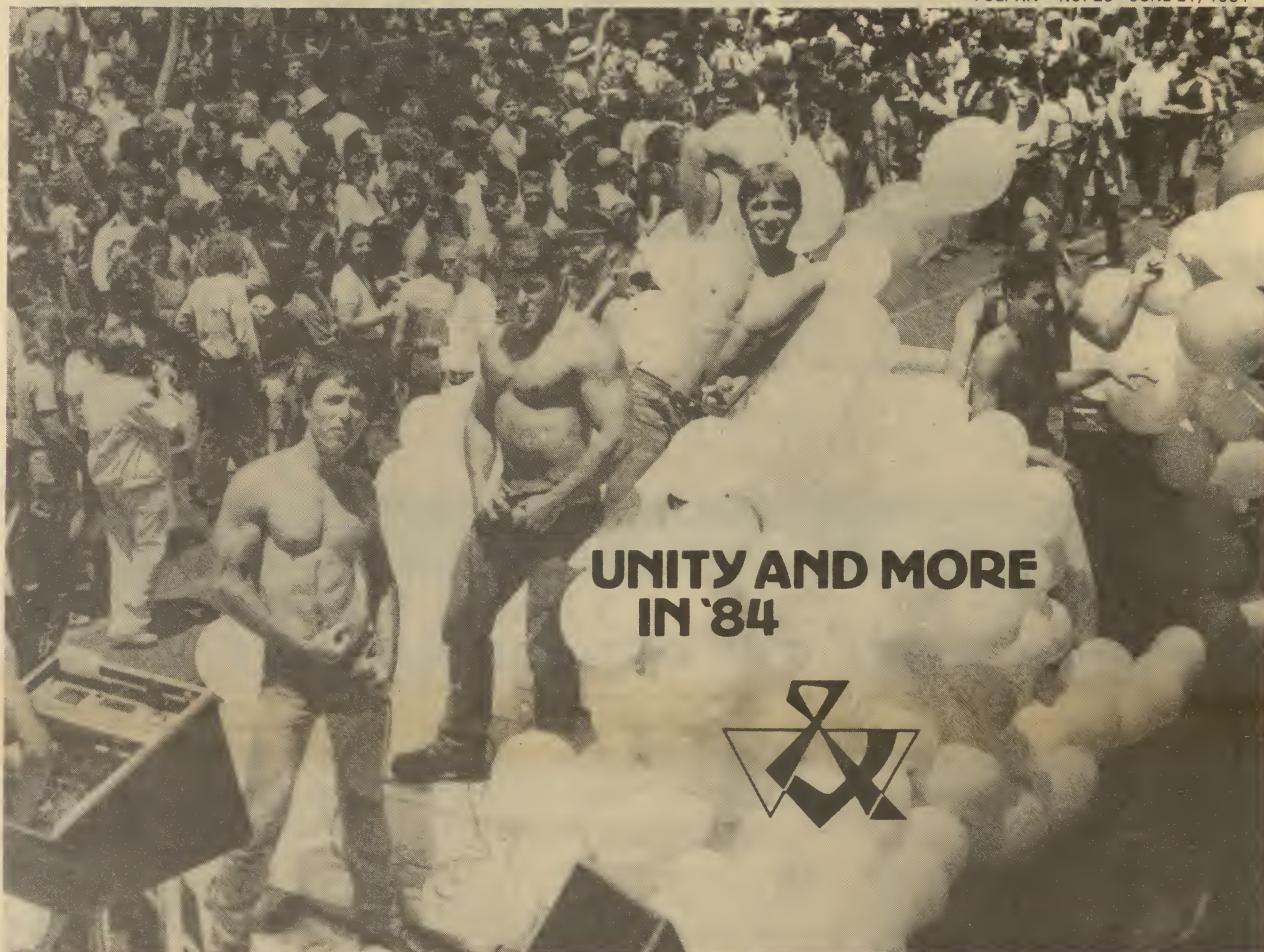


BAY AREA REPORTER

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1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

VOL. XIV NO. 25 JUNE 21, 1984



(Photo: Rink)

Demos Want Gay Rights Out of Party Platform

Kraus, Apuzzo to Argue for Planks as Platform Panel Concludes This Week

by Wayne Friday

Are the Democrats going to come to San Francisco next month with a platform that doesn't support Gay rights? It may happen. Democratic platform chair Rep. Geraldine Ferraro, a congresswoman from the Archie Bunker district in Queens, New York, is pushing a "them, etc." approach designed to squeeze out controversial groups such as Gays. At the center of the storm is San Francisco Gay activist Bill Kraus, a past president of the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club, and currently an aide to Congresswoman Sala Burton.

Kraus is one of five openly Gay members of the platform committee, and the only Gay member from California. "It's definitely going to be tough," Kraus said. "A lot of these people are from places like Tennessee and Kansas where they think support of Gay rights would be the kiss of death for their candidates; even some good people are afraid."

The solution, Kraus said, is to deal directly with the fears. "When I testified to the committee last week I concentrated on that, saying that you don't defeat the New Right by giving

in to it. You defeat it (the New Right) by standing up for the principles you believe in and exposing it as the ugly, undemocratic movement that it is," Kraus said.

Kraus' speech to the committee last week was widely applauded by its members, but the issue of Gay rights in the platform remains very much in doubt.

Virginia Apuzzo, a Lesbian member of the committee from New York and the Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force, also testified last

(Continued on page 19)



Bill Kraus (Photo: Rink)

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Crowded Barroom Watches

Gay 'Hero' Rescues Woman in Stabbing at Midnight Sun

Police Call for Witnesses; Attacker at Large

by Allen White

Two people were stabbed Friday night in the *Midnight Sun*. The incident took place in the popular Castro area bar just before midnight.

According to police reports, Karla Mora, 24, was standing in the bar watching music video when a still unidentified man lunged at the woman with a knife. She screamed, "Oh, my God!" and a second person, Jeffery Potter, grabbed the man. In a brief struggle, the six-foot tall attacker broke away from Potter, stabbing him in the shoulder.

(Continued on page 19)

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Earlier Jury Deadlocked

Million Dollar Raines Case Begins, First Test of City's Gay Ordinance

Former Director of War Memorial Center Tells Jury of Personal Suffering

by George Mendenhall

"The dismissal even affected my sexual orientation. I felt that if I had been straight and married I would still be employed. I did not particularly like the fact that I am Gay. I lost my feeling of self-worth as a Gay person." Michael Raines was speaking of the feelings he had in 1980 when he was dismissed as Managing Director of the city's War Memorial Performing Arts Center. Raines, who had a \$32,000 annual salary, is suing the city for \$1 million, alleging that he was fired because he is Gay. He claims that much of his abuse came from the homophobia of an influential trustee of the War Memorial Board, Philip Boone. Nine of the 11 trustees, those who voted to dismiss Raines, are being sued.

This is a retrial of the first court test of the city's non-discrimination ordinance, which was adopted in 1978. The first trial was voided when the jury could not agree on a verdict.

Two key personalities in the Raines trial will have their testimony read to the court this week and will not be in the courtroom. The situation was created when Boone suffered a stroke and trustee Adrian Gruhn died.

Superior Court Judge Richard Fugone ruled in the first trial that Gruhn's testimony could not be read. It will be read this week. Judge William Mullin said it is necessary "in the interest of justice." This deposition is considered crucial by the plaintiff because Gruhn allegedly spells out Boone's homophobia.

Lesbian activist Mary Dunlap and Matt Coles are the attorneys for Raines. Coles, who wrote the ordinance, is handling the first phase of the trial, which began last week. The trial is expected to be extended over a 4-5 week period.

RAINES DISMISSAL

Raines testified that he served as director of the War Memorial arts complex for 14 months, having been hired late in 1978. He was dismissed in January 1980, although he stated he was never criticized for his management nor was there ever a negative evaluation made of his work. He was praised by trustees for his work. The only explanation he received about his dismissal was from Boone, who is reported to have said, "You have been found wanting."



Michael Raines (Photo: Rink)

Mary Dunlap (Photo: Rink)

In 1979 some directors and members of the San Francisco Foundation met with the mayor. They decided to begin a search for a director of the new Performing Arts Center, which would incorporate the new Davies Hall, then under construction. Boone wanted a person of international reputation — although everyone agreed that Raines would be considered for the new post. They agreed to hire an outside firm to search for such a person.

Coles told the jury in his opening statement that Raines was not seriously included in the search effort and was unceremoniously dismissed at a board meeting after Boone became President of the board. The board was told that Raines would be present with his attorney, Coles.

Police patrolled inside and outside the meeting, as there was evidently fear of a demonstration. Raines was fired without any board discussion and was told to clear out his desk within

24 hours. The director hired to replace Raines was George Matson, a San Diego arts manager. Raines was never confronted with any charges of inefficiency or mismanagement.

Raines told the jury that he was repeatedly assured earlier that he would be offered a second position in the new Performing Arts Center setup if he was not retained, but he was also denied that after his dismissal. His income dropped dramatically after his dismissal as he could not find employment in his chosen field.

SYLVESTER CONCERT

Raines insisted that the only criticism he heard was of a concert at the Opera House starring disco diva Sylvester. He said trustee Claude Jarmain, a former child movie star, told him, "the Opera House deserves better than that — that kind of thing going on." Raines said that after he was dismissed, Boone told him "there has been this crit-

icism by the Board. There is this Sylvester concert." Judge Mullins would not permit Raines to testify on whether the audience was well behaved or not.

Victor Wong, a local theatrical promoter, will testify later that Boone asked him if Raines was Gay. Boone commented, in testimony heard during the first Raines trial, "There are already too many homosexuals in the places of responsibility in San Francisco." Boone has said he "does not recall" having made such a statement.

Boone is also alleged to have said that he wanted to have a new director who was a "family man, an All-American boy." When Raines asked Boone why he was fired, the trustee said he was "too artistic."

Bay Area Reporter is part of the trial as its fine arts editor, George Heymont, wrote articles in 1979 about Raines' problem. Heymont defended Raines and wrote that there was possible homophobia involved in his difficulties. Raines testified that he had urged Heymont not to mention the possible homophobia in his articles.

Two trustees approached Raines and told him that the articles might cause him difficulties. Trustee Fred Campagnoli told Raines he was shocked when he had received mail alleging that Raines was being dismissed because he was Gay.

A major part of the defense will be that Raines played his case to the media, becoming a controversial personality.

Raines denied this in his opening statement. He also said he was not a member of any Gay political organization nor was he public about his homosexuality. Raines explained, "I have a few close friends who know me as a Gay person. I consider my sexual orientation to be a private matter."

JURY SELECTION

The second Raines trial is being heard by a jury of six women and six men. Racial minorities represented appear to be three Asians. One male and three female jurors are single.

There is one openly Gay male involved and he serves as an alternate juror. The judge almost insisted that he serve although the man was questioned if he would be fair because of his sexual orientation. After a lengthy question and answer session, the alternate said he thought he could be fair.

Juror selection was different from the first Raines trial. Judge Mullins repeatedly asked jurors if the fact that Raines is Gay "bothers you in any way" and said, "Are you uneasy with the subject of Gay people or Gayness?" Several prospective Gay jurors felt comfortable enough about their sexual orientation to openly discuss it although they were never asked.

The Gay men were dismissed for a variety of reasons. Two explained that they had read about the Raines trial last year in the *Bay Area Reporter*. One said he belonged to the Toklas Democratic Club and that "Gay people are often discriminated against in employment."

Pride Week Present: Gay Rights in Houston

by George Mendenhall

They were celebrating on Westheimer Road and in the Montrose section of Houston Tuesday night. The Houston City Council approved, 8-7, a bill which prohibits anyone in the city from discriminating against Gay people based on sexual orientation. It also passed a measure, 9-6, which prohibits such discrimination in civil service.

Council member John Goodner has already begun to mobilize his forces to overturn Gay rights. He wants a referendum on the ballot in the summer election. The editor of the *Gay Houston Voice*, Billie Duncan, said, "The citizens of Houston are more intelligent than he thinks they are. They will not support this lunatic fringe. They will not buy the argument that this means Gay quotas and forced hiring of Gay people. The fundamentalists are not well-organized. They only bloc vote in this town is the Gay vote."

A crowd of 500 Christian fundamentalists, robed KKK members, and Gay activists filled the council chambers and overflowed into the hallways. The anti-Gay demonstrators angrily shouted in the chambers and sang "Onward Christian Soldiers" as the vote was taken. Signs read, "Homosexuals Will Not Inherit the Earth" and "Don't Turn Houston into Sodom." A "Former Homosexual" carried a large placard that read erroneously, "48% of All Homosexuals are Child Molesters."

In the circus atmosphere, the council majority decided to take a vote without hearing 68 people, who asked to speak, because they knew they had the votes. Duncan told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "That was unfortunate. It was a bruise for our side. It said to the opponents, 'We have the votes and we do not want to hear your opinions. They had a right to be heard.'

The Houston vote encourages Gay activists in the South, who saw a Gay rights bill go down to defeat in New Orleans. The Catholic Church did not take a strong anti-Gay stand in Houston — as it had in New Orleans.

Houston, the nation's fourth-largest city, has become the Gay capital of the South in recent years. It's Gay Political Caucus has become a political force in the city. Mayor Kathy Whitmire received national attention last fall after she openly welcomed Lesbian and Gay support in her election campaign.

Houston citizens were informed of the meeting in a full-page advertisement in the *Houston Chronicle*. It was placed by an anonymous party and carried the name of Council member John Goodner, who opposed the legislation.

Local Lesbian and Gay activists began their campaign for the amendments one year ago after Council member Anthony Hall was elected with strong Gay support. He introduced the measure.

Editor Duncan said full-page advertisements placed in the dailies by fundamentalist groups read "Homosexuals will flock to Houston and make this the Gay Capital of the World if these amendments pass." She added, telephone calls to council members opposing the amendments were running 8-1 until the advertisements appeared and then Gay supporters began calling and reduced the ratio to 2-1.



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Reagan on Gay Rights: I Am Opposed to Discrimination

by George Mendenhall

President Ronald Reagan avoided an opportunity last week to speak out against national Lesbian and Gay rights legislation. Instead, the President told a televised press conference, "I just have to say I am opposed to discrimination. Period."

The question was asked by Pat McGrath, national White House correspondent for Metro Media. Here is the exact transcript of June 14 question-and-answer segment:

Q: There is a measure before the Congress to change the Civil Rights law to specifically prohibit job discrimination against homosexuals. Is that something that you would favor?

A: Well, I just have to say I am opposed to discrimination. Period.

Q: But would you support the measure, Mr. President?

A: I want to see what else they have there.

Ron Najman, media director of the National Gay Task Force, (NGTF) told *Bay Area Reporter* he was encouraged by Reagan's response. He said, "This may be the opening of the door — although only slightly. The President had three opportunities. He could have come out against Gay rights legislation, distanced himself from the Democratic party's general support for our issues, or separated himself from candidate Mondale and the other Democratic candidates who have spoken out for Gay rights.

"The President missed an opportunity to come out against Gay rights. If he is not actively and openly against the civil rights for Lesbians and Gay men, I would think that his Moral Majority-type supporters would be very unhappy with his response."

McGrath spoke to the *Bay Area Reporter*, and said he had several questions to ask Reagan at the press conference. "But the others had been asked, and the Gay rights question had never been asked." He said he has a special interest in Gay rights, as he had recently broadcast a series on Gay Power on the Metro Media television stations (KTTV in Los Angeles).

The broadcaster said, "It was well worth asking. Reagan had a pretty good record on Gay rights when he was Governor and he had not spoken out on this issue since becoming President. The Democratic candidates have been supportive of the legislation. I tried to get a statement on Gay Rights from the White House when I did my series but they had no comment.

"Reagan could have come down against Gay rights but he did not take that opportunity. He didn't seem prepared for the question or maybe he just didn't

want to answer it. It is still not clear where he is on this issue but he does support fundamentalist, evangelical groups that openly oppose such legislation."

What would it take to force Reagan to be more specific? McGrath gave a clue to how that might be achieved: "Some time back the KKK said it supported Reagan because his position was the same as theirs. The White House did not comment for several days. Reagan finally had to issue a statement separating himself from the KKK." Gay activists will have to ask if they would rather the President be vague than possibly hostile.

The NGTF National Director, Virginia Appuzzo, told the Democratic Party Platform Committee last week that "the Reagan White House pretends that we do not exist." She stressed that "Gay men and Lesbians are probably the last minority group in this country against whom the federal government, actively and overtly, discriminates." She called special attention to the military where Gay men and Lesbians have been excluded as a class — "a policy that has been implemented with a vengeance over the last few years."

Tom Peretti, who heads the local Gay Republican group, Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, said, "I am not surprised by Reagan's response. It supports what I have felt all the way along — that, although he has been silent on our issues, he has not been homophobic. He certainly has not made any statements to that effect. He does not share the opinion of some of his more conservative supporters."

A press aide to President Reagan said the White House had no further comment on the Gay rights issue at this time. ■

Atlas Stockholders Meet June 27 — A Glowing Report

The world's only Lesbian and Gay owned-and-operated savings and loan association, Atlas, will hold its annual stockholders meeting next Wednesday, June 27. The staid affair at the Castro Theatre will be enlivened by an organ concert while construction continues across the street on the new \$2 million corporate offices.

Atlas will present another year of success. In an era when savings and loan companies continue to have difficulties, the Lesbian and Gay operation has survived and expanded.

John Schmidt, chair of the Atlas Board, will tell stockholders of the company's phenomenal growth in the second full year of the S&L operation and new projections: A 21% increase in assets and a profitability increase from a 30 cent share loss to a \$3.46 gain will be an-

nounced. The 18th Street branch will be moving into the new Castro office. A Financial District Branch will open at 110 Bush Street. Automatic Tellers will be increased from one to six.

There will be room for cheering as the value of Atlas stock has more than doubled in the last year. Atlas closed its 1983 books with \$62 million in its savings accounts, compared with \$17 million at the end of 1982. Its loans have jumped from 1982's \$13 million to over \$43 million in 1983. Depositors, many of whom have learned of Atlas through national publicity, are now in 50 states and several foreign countries.

The Atlas board has begun a search for a new president/chief executive officer. Atlas' current president, Harlan D. Mowbray, is scheduled to retire in December of this year. ■

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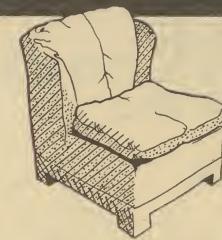
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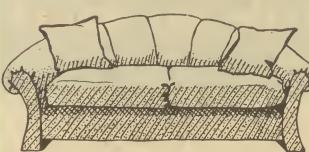
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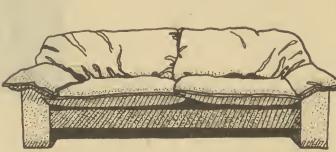
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BAY AREA REPORTER JUNE 21, 1984 PAGE 5

What's on Tap for Pride Gaylas

Sunday's Parade the Highlight for Three Days of Celebration

by Allen White

Sunday morning at 11 the 1984 International Lesbian/Gay Freedom Parade begins at Spear and Market Streets. With the theme "Unity & More in '84," the 100,000 who are expected to march will move up Market Street, turn into United Nations Plaza, and then rally in Civic Center. This year's program in front of City Hall at 12:30 p.m. features a smaller number of speakers. The speakers were chosen to illustrate the breadth and accomplishments of Gay men and Lesbians on this, the fifteenth anniversary of Stonewall.

More than 200 units of marchers, floats, and musical groups will take part in this year's parade. They will be flanked by more than 300 rainbow banners as they make their way up Market Street. There will be a carnival atmosphere in Civic Center, as many booths will be set up, with people selling everything from their political philosophy to t-shirts to cold beer.

The emcees for this year's celebration will be Supervisor Harry Britt, Lesbian/Gay Health Services Coordinator Pat Norman, Community College Board President Tim Wolfred, Carmen Vasquez, and comedian Tom Ammiano.

The parade and celebration are but two of the many events which are presented during this period of Gay pride in San Francisco.

The San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival presents its last event at the Castro Theatre this evening



The Glamour. Balloon Girls' Pajama Party at the Casa Loma is just one of the romps that will make this weekend one to remember . . . if you can.
(Photo: Rink)

before moving on to the Roxie Cinema for film presentations through Sunday night. The National Third World/People of Color Lesbian/Gay Conference begins at UC Berkeley and con-

tinues through Saturday. Emmett Foster and his brilliant "One Mormon Show" continues almost every night through the weekend at the Valencia Rose for \$6.



The Men. The finale for the Mr. Drummer Contest will be one of the highlights of a star-studded weekend.
(Photo: Rink)

Friday night the 6th Annual Gay Musical Celebration will be presented at Nourse Auditorium with the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Mixed Chorus, Dick Kramer's Gay Men's Chorale, and the Barbary Coast Cloggers starting at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$6, \$8, and \$10 at Headlines' Polk and Castro stores. The Lesbian Erotica Film Festival, which always sounds like fun, starts at 8:30 at the Women's Building with a sliding scale from \$50 zipping down to \$5. The Fourth Annual Medical Symposium, "Directions in Lesbian & Gay Health," sponsored by the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights, begins on Friday; 558-9353 is the phone number to get the doctors.

Saturday night is when the big dance parties begin. This year's events are nothing short of sensational. Saturday Sanford Kellman and the I-Beam Band present the first of a two-day dance marathon at the Giftcenter Pavilion. For \$22 you gets tickets to dance from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. and see Miquel Brown ("So Many Men, So Little Time") and you get to come back Sunday for the open air tea dance, with entertainment to be provided by Sylvester, starting at 4 p.m. and running to midnight. Tickets are at Gramophone and Headlines. A buck from each ticket goes to benefit the parade coffers. Starting at 9 p.m. Trocadero Transfer presents the finals to find Mr. Drummer '84, with tickets priced at \$15. For women there is going to be a truly class act dance at the Hyatt Regency. Titled "Puttin' on the Ritz," it is sponsored by the Bay Area Career Women. It starts at 9 p.m. with a \$15 tariff. Dress is formal attire optional. Tickets are at Artemis on Valencia.

Earlier Saturday, there is the 6th Annual Pre-Parade Picnic Party. It's sponsored by the Gay Youth Community Coalition; for information call 552-6025. The Concerned Republicans do what they usually do this week-

end — they leave town. They will have an outing to the California Railway Museum in Sacramento. Call them at 885-6240 if you want to see some antique sleepers. At 6 p.m. there will be an Annette Funicello & Frankie Avalon Look-Alike Contest at the Alamo Square Saloon. In conjunction with the contest, the Balloon Girls, who have a float in the parade, are having a slumber party and have taken over the entire Alamo Square Hotel.

Sunday, following the parade and celebration, are the annual tea dances. There are several noteworthy major events. Sylvester will be making a splashy appearance at the open-air Giftcenter Pavilion party. Scherrie Payne, Magda Dioni, Sport, and Mr. Drummer '84 are all part of the Galleria Gay Day Tea Dance. Both cost \$12 in advance with tix at Headlines and Gramophone; the charge is \$15 at the door. The Trocadero Transfer has lowered the price for its annual tea dance this year to \$5 and it may become the bargain of the weekend.

Gay pride is being celebrated throughout the city all week long. Many bars, stores, and restaurants are planning special activities. Marshall Petty, bartender Marty, and Lovey Blue perform a special revue Friday at the Q.T. on Polk Street. Tom Ammiano and Marga Gomez celebrate two and a half years of comedy Saturday night at the Valencia Rose. David Kelsey & Pure Trash perform Sunday night at the New Bell. Next Monday night the entertainment continues with Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel at Sutter's Mill on Battery.

In the world of the theatre, San Francisco has its own Gay-based Theatre Rhinoceros presenting Bad Drama on the main stage and Psycho Killers in the smaller studio theater. Last Summer at Bluefish Cove continues with Lee Meriwether at Theatre on the Square, while the grand and glorious La Cage aux Folles plays at the Golden Gate Theatre.

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VOL. XIV NO. 25 JUNE 21, 1984

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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

And We Are Proud

Judy Garland was dead.

She lay in a casket in a New York City church that sultry June night 15 years ago. Thousands of mourners — many of them queens — slowly walked past to say goodbye.

Afterwards, some of the Gay mourners left the cathedral and walked a few blocks to the Stonewall Inn, a tacky drag dive. By midnight, the place was packed.

It was the wrong night to pick on the faggots.

The New York Police didn't know that. They had raided the Stonewall many times — shoving people around, calling people names, making a few arrests — maybe injuring one or two patrons; but these were, after all, queers. And nobody raised much fuss when you bashed a queer. Even the queers didn't raise a fuss. So they were fair game for the pigs' humiliation and harassment.

Not that night. On that night, Gay Rage was born. On that night, the sissies fought back. On that night, our movement was born.

For two nights the rioting raged. Recent accounts seem to play down the extent of the battle. Rocks and bottles flew, glass shattered, fires burned, cops and queens were injured, and whole blocks were cordoned off.

That Stonewall Riot is what we celebrate this week, what we will commemorate Sunday as 100,000 of us march side-by-side and arm-in-arm up Market Street; and as hundreds of thousands more of us march along avenues grand and small all over America. We march with pride. We march with defiance. And well we should.

Who could have imagined we would have accomplished so much in such a short time — and against such opposition? The scope of our development since Stonewall is astonishing. Gay politics. Gay lawyers. Gay churches. Gay business. Gay clinics. Gay sports. Gay press. Gay literature, drama, art: a Gay culture. And most important of all, Gay and Lesbian families: Those extended groups of love, support, and concern which give us strength when the world beats us down. Whole sections of great American cities have become ours, and while these places go by the not altogether flattering term "ghetto," we love our ghettos — because, within them, we can be surrounded by our own people; within them, we achieve a moment's respite from the struggle that is being Lesbian or Gay in America; and because, within our ghettos, we may be free.

We celebrate today not just the birth of a movement, but the emergence of an entire people, and the flowering of its culture. The force and the speed with which we have emerged stands in direct proportion to the degree of our oppression. For 50 centuries on this planet, we have been a despised people — a people tormented, a people tortured and murdered, with abandon and even cheerfulness by others. Know us, know our history by our names. A "faggot" is a bundle of sticks used to light the pyre for burning witches — many of them Lesbians and Gay men. "Queer" is something nobody wants to be. "Homosexual" is a clinical description of a psychological pathology — which is to say, the description of an illness. But we are not demonic, we are not strange, and we are not sick. Today, on the 15th anniversary of our defiance, we are Lesbians and we are Gay men. And we are proud.

Perhaps the greatest measure of our humanity, of the trueness of our spirits, is this: From a history of utmost cruelty, and living today in a world which, at its worst, wants us dead, and at its best, wants us to go away — we have not lost our hearts. We have not lost our heads. We have not lost our hope. So much of this world has given us cruelty, but we have not lost our love. That — that is the most precious gift, our love. It burns openly and brightly today, casting a glimmer across 5,000 years of darkness.

Brian Jones

B.A.R.

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LETTERS

Keeping Jose Off the Stage

★ So Jose Sarria will not be invited to speak at the gay community rally at the Democratic convention here this summer because he might insist upon dressing up as the Widow Norton. I had hoped our community had gone beyond this sort of unfortunate prejudice. Furthermore, the rally committee of the National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights, San Francisco 1984 has recommended at their most recent meeting that scheduling and security precautions be taken to prevent drag entertainers, such as members of the Royal Courts and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, from appearing onstage at the rally or from joining other community leaders at the head of the march.

San Francisco's own Jose Sarria is a venerable entertainer and activist who is also the first openly gay person to have run for a political office in America. Fired from a public school teaching position for being gay, he turned in the 1950s to show business and became well-known for his opera burlesques at the pioneering gay bar, The Black Cat. At a time when society casually expected "decent" homosexuals to change sexual orientation or commit suicide, Jose closed every show by leading the audience in singing "God Save Us Nellie Queens."



(Photo: Rink)

America, via national television, what a drag queen is — and making millions in the process — isn't it somewhat *retardaire* for some of our "community leaders" (as they like to call themselves) to want to push drag into the closet?

I have never understood why our community spends a fortune to import someone like Quentin Crisp, however admirable his service to the American Navy during World War II, when our own Widow Norton can tell tales about our own town that would make Mr. Crisp's seem rather pale by comparison. Now, Mr. Sarria may have any one of a number of excellent reasons for not wishing to speak at the rally. But as a matter of protocol, much less respect, he should be at least invited. That he will not be out of a fear that he might actually accept is despicable.

Larry Trend
San Francisco

On Straight Athletes

★ Re: Jerry De Young on gay sports for gays.

I, like Jerry, have written articles for the *B.A.R.* about gay bowling leagues and tournaments. I respect Jerry and the work he has done for the furthering of gay bowling in San Francisco. However, I feel that Jerry should think a little and get his facts straight before he writes about other organizations in the gay community.

I have been a member of the Gay Softball League for four years, two broken fingers, two wrist operations, and a lot of aches and pains. I think I know as much about it as I do the gay bowling leagues. First, I would like to ask Jerry if he feels that there are no straights in the Community or Tavern Guild Leagues? Also, whether he felt that not a single person who was either straight or bisexual competed in the Tri-City or No-Tap bowling tournaments? Also, Jerry, how many gay individuals competed in the San Francisco City Tournament that was open to all?

Although I was not here at the time, I have been told that there was a problem of gay managers buying straight players to win the old Community Softball League (CSL). When that occurred, the new Gay Softball League (GSL) was started by various individuals who are well-known by those of us who play softball, with the idea of keeping it a gay league. The CSL (with gay and straight players) and the GSL have survived quite well.

The GSL has in its rules that any player can be challenged as to his or her sexual orientation. If that player says he or she is gay or lesbian, then the matter is dropped. This has occurred on rare occasions and each time the matter was resolved internally, as it should be. No one was asked to prove their sexual orientation. People have been accepted based on their word and their attitude to others in the league. This is true in bowling also.

In response to Jerry's closing remarks, I would like to say that straight organizations have extended memberships to acknowledged homosexuals. Didn't gays bowl in the basically straight City Tournament? Also, there is a team from the GSL playing and doing quite well in the City Softball League. Many of us have played in industrial and insurance softball and bowling leagues with no discrimination. As a matter of fact, we have done well and have been rewarded for our abilities while gaining respect.

The competition with straights in many circumstances is good for our community. Weren't we all happy when a gay team won money in the City Tournament? Aren't we proud that the Gay Games fit well always (Olympic Games) proves that we are as athletic as others and only need the chance to prove it? When the gay softball teams beat straight teams, doesn't it make us feel good?

While keeping our organizations as pure as possible by remembering that their purpose is to give gay men and lesbians a chance to play and prove themselves, let's also prove that we are as good as we can be by not bickering over sexual orientation, but beating them at their own game. We have fantastic bowlers, softball players, tennis players, track stars, swimmers, basketball players, some "macho" football players, pool sharpshooters, and other athletic individuals who will win no matter whom they play and we should be proud of them. If the straights feel that we are pushovers, let's go out and prove to them that we are not. When it comes to tournaments and competitions that bill themselves as gay events such as the Gay World Series softball championships, IGBO bowling tournament, Gay (Olympic) Games, etc., then we should insure the integrity of the name by only allowing brothers and sisters to participate. However, what is wrong with local competition from anyone who wants to be fair and help us improve our game and quality?

Long lists with scores of names on them were circulated at the meeting. Heavily weighted with the names of every conceivable heterosexual celebrity except Zsa Zsa Gabor, and including Joan Rivers, there was only one local name I recognized. James Baldwin was a particular favorite of the group, although no one could figure how to get him here from the south of France on such short notice. Ralph Paine insisted that "we need a speaker from the classical music community" and suggested Van Cliburn. Ralph also suggested former U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, because "I hear she's dying and she might come out onstage."

Is this tragedy or farce? The meeting occurred at the behest of the co-chair of the steering committee for the demonstration. This co-chair made the motion to regulate local community participation in the march and rally, which passed.

Drag is an honorable — and socially necessary — art that is thousands of years old; until relatively recently in the western world, all women's roles in theatre were played by adolescent boys. Only people insecure in their masculine self-identity (this includes certain "politically correct" lesbians) could be offended by it. Now that Boy George has taught every four-year-old child in

Open Door Policy

★ In my published letter last week captioned "What's What," I irresponsibly wrote, (*sic.*) "Bathhouse doors should be kept closed except for leaving and entering." I have since been reminded that the choice to leave a door open for ventilation and other purposes is also a personal privacy right, unless jailed. I must remember to enroll in some kind of intercourse in breeding, brightening, (*sic.*) and especially writhing-metic. My apologies and thank you.

William (Bill!) Smith, 2001th
San Francisco

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BAY AREA REPORTER JUNE 21, 1984 PAGE 10



The Dykes on Bikes as they appeared in the '82 Parade. (Photo: Rink)

What's in a Name?

Dispute Revs Up for Dyke Bikers

Two Groups Vie for Spot at Vanguard of Parade

by Allen White

Who's a Dyke on a bike? That's not a dumb question — it is, in fact, the central question in a dispute over who will lead the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade this coming Sunday.

The issue has been simmering for months and came to a head when a group of women, including Glenne McElhinney, chose to form a legal association and get a trademark for the phrase "Dykes on Bikes." Ramey Fair, who, with McElhinney, founded the group in 1977, said the purpose of the group is to educate women about motorcycles and that it is a recreational club. She says it has been a loosely organized group and that anybody could ride in the group in the annual San Francisco parade.

Last year, the core group of "Dykes on Bikes" numbered about a dozen, though over 125 women participated in the contingent. The core group now calls itself the "Dykes on Bikes" and claims that the other women can no longer use the title.

Roberta Whitelaw, a woman biker in the parade since 1975, countered by forming the "Dykes on Bikes Motorcycle Club of San Francisco." She and her advisor, Hydie Downard, claim that "Dykes on Bikes" is a generic term and anybody who desires can be a Dyke on a bike.

This year, both organizations have filed applications and money has been accepted for the groups to participate in the 1984 Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. Both groups have attorneys and Betsy Calloway, the attorney for the "Dykes" with the trademark, has served papers to make the other group of "Dykes" stop using the name.

"Dykes on Bikes" founder Glenne McElhinney would make no statement because she said the issue is being negotiated by the attorneys. Hydie Downard said there is nothing to negotiate.

Downard told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "This group has been formed and registered to assure that all women have the right to continue the tradition they are entitled to. Any discrimination or denial of this right is a misuse of power and a direct attack not only to the goals followed by the

Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade but the women who gather to ride each year."

Fair said the issue was one of safety. There have been complaints that some of the riders drink beer and take drugs before the parade. "The problem is not image; it is safety!" she exclaimed.

Last year, she said, there had to be negotiations to get the people who were using drugs and drinking beer to drop back in the group of women bikers. At the same time, the core group purchased flags and formed as an official organization which included trademarking the name "Dykes on Bikes."

Dykes on Bikes Profile See Page 39



Hydie Downard (Photo: Rink)

is a board member of the group that puts on the Gay Games. They are now involved in a bitter and costly legal action of the use of just one single word. Streicher said, "I believe it is a travesty when one of our community organizations uses the same sort of tactics as an outside organization." She further stated, "I believe that any woman who wants to has a right to ride on a bike in the parade and they have a perfect right to call themselves a 'dyke.' For a woman to be called a 'dyke on a bike' is her own prerogative."

Meanwhile, over at the parade office, they are sitting with two applications from two "Dykes on Bikes" groups. They have both paid their fees and both have met all the requirements to ride in this year's parade. Parade co-chair Linda Boyd said they take the position that the "Dykes on Bikes" is a generic term which has been used at the vanguard of the parade for the past three years. She said both groups will be a part of the parade.

The decision of who goes first is made by the parade committee and it is their decision. There are several considerations in making the decision and they believe their policies are fair. Boyd said the official lineup of the parade will not be released until Sunday morning and only at that time will the truth be known about who will lead the parade.

The *Bay Area Reporter* has learned through several reliable sources that the trademark group, "The Dykes on Bikes" which includes Glenne McElhinney, will begin the 1984 parade. The second group in the parade will be the "Dykes on Bikes Motorcycle Club of San Francisco" which will include Roberta Whitelaw. The parade starts at 11 a.m. ■

'Thank God for Making Me Gay'

Rousing Service at Trinity; Preacher Boyd Rips Bigoted Biblical Babblers

by Allen White

Gay and Lesbian worshippers joined in a rousing confession of faith Sunday night during the annual ecumenical service coinciding with Gay and Lesbian Freedom Week. This is the third year the service has ushered in Gay Freedom Week. The first was in 1982 at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral. Last year the service was presented at Grace Cathedral. This year, by far the most theologically inclusive, was hosted by Nostri, the Gay and Lesbian group of Trinity Church. Participating in the Sunday service were ministers and priests representing the Roman Catholic Church, the United Church of Christ, Lutherans, Presbyterians, a group called Evangelicals Concerned, and ministers from the two Metropolitan Community Churches in San Francisco.

Through the symbolism, the pageantry, and the expressed theology it became a statement as colorful as *La Cage aux Folles* and as reverent as the solitary prayers of a mother in a deserted chapel.

The speaker was Episcopal priest Malcolm Boyd. Boyd has become a controversial religious personality for his radical prayer book, *Are You Running With Me, Jesus?* and for his coming out from a church pulpit. The announcement he was Gay was, in fact, made from the same Trinity Church pulpit almost a decade ago.

Malcolm Boyd declared, "A new age is here for Gay men and Lesbians. The past is past; we must not forget it lest we have to relive it. But our situation is now fundamentally different. We are now a new moral minority. We must resist being flagged in the name of morality. We are a moral people; we possess morality and we must stand up now."

He attacked Jerry Falwell,

who four days before the Democratic Convention is bringing a "Pro-Family Forum" to San Francisco. Boyd ripped into Falwell for laying claim to the concept of the family. "Remember, Jesus Christ was a single man. He had a mother, a father, and an extended family," Boyd said. He compared the situation to that of many Gay men and Lesbians.

Boyd commented on bigots using the Bible to interpret Blacks as beasts and less than human. "How many Jews have died," he said, "because of someone's interpretation of the Bible?"

He denounced those who would interpret the Bible as advocating people live a lie. "Living in the closet is a lie," he proclaimed. "The good news is to know you are Gay and to know you are not a victim. To many, a Gay identity means living in a closet. America needs to know who we are.

"Gay has a new meaning:



Clergy congratulate Boyd after his sermon. (Photo: Rink)

Take off the mask! Self-pity is so boring; social arrogance is so unnecessary. Be yourself and help others to be themselves," Boyd said. To a standing ovation he proclaimed, "Thank God for making me Gay."

As the service moved into the holy communion, the intensity of the two-hour event was awesome. Rev. Robert Crome, the Rector of Trinity Episcopal, invited all those present to take communion. He was specific, as if to give no doubt, that every person, including Gay men and Lesbians, were to be a part of this part of the service.

As the people slowly moved through the aisles, Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale presented an anthem and Jack Pantaleo, a member of Evangelicals Concerned, played a canon on the harp.

Following the benediction by a Roman Catholic priest, the building shook from the booming of the organ and several hundred people singing "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God."

As the procession of priests, singers, and flags marched back through the church, the worshippers stood, screamed, and applauded. The declaration of faith had been made. ■

New Wizard of Oz

London - Attention, all you Judy Garland fans! Walt Disney Productions is finally going to do what no studio has dared to do up to now — produce a sequel to Judy's 1939 classic, *The Wizard of Oz*.

Who will play Dorothy is being kept a closely-guarded secret, but she will be considerably younger than Ms. Garland and make Ms. Ross old enough to be her grandmother. On second thought, could you imagine Minnie Mouse as Dorothy and Pluto as Toto? Would you believe Mickey as the wizard? After all, he DID play the Sorcerer's Apprentice in *Fantasia*. ■



Malcolm Boyd preaches. (Photo: Rink)



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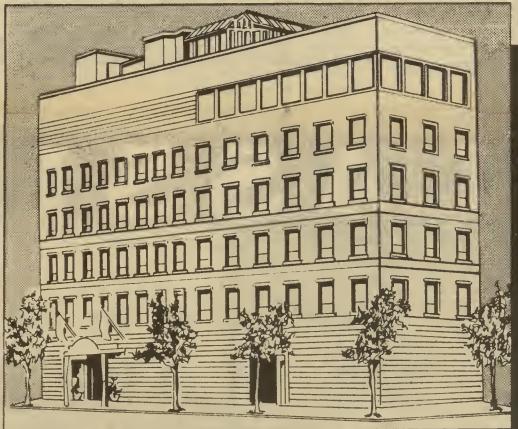
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Sanders Withdraws Initiative — Police Code Makes It Moot

Following consultations with attorneys and conversations with bathhouse owners, the Gay newspaper writer who two weeks ago introduced a November ballot initiative to ban heterosexual bathhouse sex has withdrawn his proposal.

"It was brought to my attention during those conversations that my initiative is moot because of a clause in the city's police code which makes it impossible for any ban on bathhouse sexual activity to be imposed on Gay bathhouses alone," said Dion Sanders, the initiative's sponsor.

"That clause puts Gay bathhouses and straight saunas and hot tubs that are licensed by the city in roughly the same category — which means all of the establishments would be affected by the Public Health Department's proposed regulations," he continued.

The regulations, drafted by the Police Department, in conjunction with the Health Department, would specifically ban sex between Gay men in bathhouses with city licenses.

Sanders, a writer on leave of absence from the *Bay Area Reporter*, said that the owner of one of the straight saunas told him, "the real reason why Dr. (Mervyn) Silverman has not taken any action to date is the fact there is no legal way for him to do so without also coming down on the straight establishments."

"He told me in no uncertain terms that my initiative would

remove that barrier," he continued, adding that the owner's statements were backed up by "several attorneys researching the issue."

Sanders acknowledged that the real danger would be in the precedent that his initiative would set. "I am well aware that there are some groups in this city who would push initiative after initiative to close down the X-rated theaters, bars, private clubs, you name it. In the long run, it would have done more harm than good."

"I said all along that my initiative was intended as a pressure tactic to stop Dr. Silverman's regulations — and it seems to have worked, in light of recent events," he said.

Sanders — who has been a free-lance reporter for the *Bay Area Reporter* for a year — said that the past two weeks "it has been very uncomfortable for me. After asking questions for 13 years as a reporter, believe me it was very unnerving to be on the receiving end of reporters' questions."

"But I felt I had to do what I did, because this was one issue in which I could not be impartial," he said. Sanders and his editors have agreed he will not cover the bathhouse issue.

Sanders said that the experience which included the overwhelming rejection of his initiative by the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club — taught him that "journalists make lousy politicians."

National Business Councils Reacts to AIDS

**Delegates Push Education,
Oppose Bath Closings**

The National Association of Business Councils is deeply concerned with the grave crisis presented by the AIDS epidemic in communities throughout the United States.

We urge our members to support and participate in the following activities:

1. Efforts by both private and public agencies to *educate* the community as to risks, alternatives, and responsible health practices.

2. *Advocacy* for increased local, state, and federal funding of research, educational efforts, and assistance and support for people with AIDS.

3. *Fundraising* for purposes of research, education, and assistance and support for people with AIDS.

We firmly believe that education is the most positive agent for promoting continuing health in our communities. We firmly oppose any attempts to impose arbitrary regulation or closures upon bathhouses or other similar businesses. Such action would be an unwarranted intrusion by government and poses a serious threat to civil liberties.

— Passed unanimously by the Board of Directors
May 19, 1984

The statement came out of the semi-annual meeting of the Business Councils' Board of Directors held last weekend in Seattle. Some 40 delegates attended.



What About Liz?

Sandmire, Hubbs Mark 25 Years

It Started with an Argument at a 1959 Dinner Party

by Steve Warren

Rev. Jim Sandmire and Jack Hubbs celebrated their 25th anniversary at California Hall Sunday with a party attended by over 200, many of them members and friends of Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church, where Jim is pastor and Jack is a deacon.

Their relationship began in 1959. That same year:

- Liz Taylor married for the fourth of seven times;
- Mickey Rooney married the fifth of his eight wives;
- Joan Crawford's fourth husband died, leaving her in charge of Pepsi-Cola;
- Hedy Lamarr divorced the fifth of her six husbands;
- Martha Raye and her sixth husband marked their first anniversary, Artie Shaw and his seventh wife, their second;
- Lana Turner and Ginger Rogers were taking breathers between their respective four and fifth husbands, Gloria Swanson between numbers five and six.



The Rev. Jim Sandmire and Jack Hubbs had an intimate little affair with about 200 friends for their 25th anniversary. (Photo: Rink)

Sandmire and Hubbs were students at Berkeley in 1959. They were only vaguely aware of each other prior to June 15th of that year, but they had at least one thing in common — an interest in a young man who was graduating. Jack threw a dinner in his honor and the graduate invited Jim as his guest, to Jack's jealous chagrin.

In the middle of dinner Jack and Jim got into an argument. Something clicked and you might say they've been going at each other every since.

"Jim courted me like mad for a week," Jack said. Sandmire had a wife and children, which gave them both reason to hesitate. "Jack said it didn't matter," Jim says, "but he insisted that I fulfill my (obligation) to my family first."

As it happened, Jack had a ticket for a long-planned trip to Europe. When he returned ten months later Jim had put his affairs in order and they were able to begin their life together.

Both were political science majors, but their career paths took different courses. Jim set up a management consulting firm and Jack began teaching in the suburban Mount Diablo school district, where he has been for 20 years. Jim's firm folded in 1971 after his photo appeared in the *Chronicle* as the leader of a Gay rally on the steps of the Federal Building, but by then he had found another career.

Sandmire had been active in the ministry of the Mormon church, but left them after "years of agonizing . . . Being Gay was part of it, but not the main reason." Some years later he was helped over a bad period by an Episcopal priest he consulted on impulse, and he started attending that church. Hubbs, who had been separated from the church for several years, went along to be with Jim

and Jim have always been part of each other's biological families. Jack helped raise Jim's children. "My wife had custody sometimes and I had them sometimes," Jim says, adding, "but we kept their pets . . . The kids called Jack 'Mama Jack' because I was the stern one in the family. When I said no they would go to Jack to get around me."

They've also "raised" Jack's mother together. She's lived with them "off and on for 15 years," as a neighbor for a while but sharing their house for the past seven years. Like her son before her, she had a spiritual awakening at MCC. "That was how she found out we were Gay," Jim says. "We decided it was time and took her to church with us . . . She had been a nominal Methodist, but she became a real Christian through MCC." "Mother Hubbs" is popular in Jim's congregation, and with church members around the world.

Their careers and church activities don't give Jack and Jim a lot of time to be alone together, so "We try to make it quality time," Jim says. "We may get tired of one another's commitments, but we've always supported one another's commitments."

At the couple's anniversary celebration, city Supervisor Willie Kennedy presented a unanimous proclamation of the Board of Supervisors, honoring the couple for their life together and their service to the Lesbian and Gay community.

Sandmire and Hubbs are both young enough that there may well be a sequel to this story on their 50th anniversary. I hope I'm still around to write it, and perhaps celebrating an anniversary of my own by then. Talking with a couple like this gives hope to an old romantic. ■

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Cops' Plan for Convention

Spells Out What Will Be Allowed, What Won't As Demos — and Gays — Converge at Moscone

by Allen White

The San Francisco police will operate as virtually two separate departments during the Democratic Convention. Plans for convention security were reviewed by Police Lt. James Dachauer at a Board of Supervisors' committee meeting last week.

One section of the police department will operate to provide basic police services to the citizens of San Francisco. The other will focus on the logistics of the 1984 Democratic National Convention.

The convention organization will be under the command of Deputy Chief George Emil. He will head seven separate tactical squads. One will operate inside, another outside, Moscone Center. Traffic and in-transit concerns will be the responsibility of two other squads. One squad will be assigned to hotels, one to emergencies, and one group will be assigned to intelligence.

Dachauer told the supervisors' committee that the police had put in motion a policy to facilitate the right of all persons to demonstrate. He was firm in stating that any violence will lead immediately to arrests. Supervisor Nancy Walker, who requested the report, asked for his "guidelines of violence."

Dachauer said that a rigid chain of command had been set up to monitor any violations of the law and keep control. He also stated that all lieutenants and sergeants had received four hours of special training to sensitize them to proper police procedures.

Dachauer said that any violent incidents would be videotaped by the city. This tape will be used to prove or disprove criminal activity, not only against demonstrators, but also against police officers, he said.

Other sources reported that Gay leaders have been meeting with the police in an effort to reduce the possibility of violence. The Community United Against Violence has been meeting with the police and will

be working with dozens of monitors being trained in the Gay community. The organizers of the Lesbian/Gay Rights march the Sunday before the convention are expecting over 250 Gay monitors to assure a safe event.

Deputy Chief Emil has coordinated police coverage during several Gay demonstrations. He personally supervised the police during the events surrounding the release of Dan White last January. Following the defeat of AB-1, there were demonstrations, and, though small in size, Emil was present observing the crowd and the conduct of his officers. For the last several years he has also been the officer in charge of the City Hall command post during the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day activities. ■

NGTF Meets with Social Security Commissioners

Representatives of the National Gay Task Force and three AIDS service organizations met with the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration, Martha McSteen, on April 30 to establish new channels of communication between that agency and the Gay community. NGTF Executive Director Virginia Apuzzo described this meeting as "part of NGTF's continuing effort to educate the federal bureaucracy regarding the needs of persons with AIDS."

Also attending the meeting were Jeffrey Levi, NGTF's Washington Representative; John Boring, NGTF's AIDS Program Coordinator; Jay Lipner, special counsel to Gay Men's Health Crisis of New York; Phil Gerber of the Dallas AIDS Information Project; and Peter Laqueur of the Health Education Resource Organization of Baltimore. In addition to the Commissioner, attendees from the Social Security Administration (SSA) included Patricia Owens, Acting Associate Commissioner for Disability; James McDonald, Chief of Medical Evaluation; and Janice Warden, Deputy Associate Commissioner of the Office of Field Operations.

THE ISSUES

Among the issues raised by NGTF and the AIDS service organizations were inordinate delays experienced by some persons with AIDS before gaining access to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI); and failure on the part of some state disability determination offices to follow SSA guidelines for expediting applications for AIDS claimants. Gerber provided his own personal perspective as a person with AIDS and claimant for benefits: "Only after much frustration, and countless inquiries on my part, and only after I had to endure repeated requests for irrelevant information and a six-month wait, did I finally receive benefits."

Among the specific steps that the SSA was urged to take to make it easier for persons with AIDS to obtain benefits were: adoption of special teleservice numbers for receiving applications from persons with AIDS and implementation of systematic follow-up procedures for AIDS claims (procedures already in effect in New York City) and designation of SSA personnel to specialize in AIDS claims and work with AIDS service volunteers, which has already happened in San Francisco and a few other cities.

The need for better entitlement education directed towards persons with AIDS and closer cooperation between SSA and AIDS service groups was also discussed. Lipner urged that the SSA provide AIDS applicants with referrals to the Medicaid program, noting that "in states such as New York, Illinois, California, and Massachusetts, where it is possible to obtain Medicaid before qualifying for SSI, it is highly desirable for persons with AIDS to apply separately for Medicaid."

Commissioner McSteen agreed to take further measures to encourage expedited handling of applications from persons with AIDS, especially in those localities such as Dallas and Atlanta where delays have been particularly excessive. She also pledged better communication by her agency with AIDS service organizations and agreed that AIDS claimants would be provided with Medicaid referrals and information about local AIDS service organizations. The Gay community will receive the names of local and regional liaisons who specialize in the handling of AIDS claims. In addition, the Commissioner recognized the need for SSA to make the availability of benefits better known to those who are eligible. It was agreed that SSA would consider public service announcements to achieve this goal.

To alleviate the plight of those who suffer from AIDS-related

conditions that are severely debilitating, NGTF asked the Social Security Administration to supplement the existing definition covering only CDC (Centers for Disease Control)-defined AIDS, with a new impairment category (or categories) that will make it easier for these persons to obtain badly needed support. The Commissioner and her medical evaluation staff agreed to begin discussions with physicians from the Gay community experienced with these AIDS-related conditions. In the meantime, the SSA agreed to send a bulletin to those in charge of disability determination in every state advising them that AIDS claims falling short of the CDC definition may be allowed if the patient is unable to perform work.

Apuzzo said the meeting "demonstrates a willingness on the part of Social Security to be more responsive to the needs of persons with AIDS and to move beyond the helpful but not wholly adequate policy initiatives that they have made in the past year." ■

Persons with AIDS may call the NGTF Crisis Line (800-221-7044; in NYS call: 212-807-6016) to obtain basic information regarding the application process for benefits obtainable from the Social Security Administration. NGTF urges persons with AIDS and those who are disabled as a result of AIDS-related conditions to apply for benefits; those experiencing problems or delays should contact their local AIDS service organization or NGTF.

Philly Gets Sexual Minorities Board

Philadelphia - Mayor Wilson Goode has signed an executive order creating a special mayor's commission for sexual minorities.

Lisa Bacon, president of the Philadelphia Equal Rights Commission, and Len Bost, former vice chairman of the local chapter of Black and White Men Together, were named co-chairs of the new commission, which will, among other things, study problems facing sexual minorities, work with city agencies toward ending anti-Gay and anti-Bisexual discrimination, and improve city services to sexual minorities. ■

A Cease-Fire in the Battle for the Baths

SUPES DELAY ACTION FOR 45 DAYS AFTER LEGAL OBJECTIONS

by Brian Jones

The year's nastiest political brawl went into half-time last week. A Board of Supervisors committee delayed a bill to define who will regulate bathhouses. The Committee on Public Protection voted 2-0, with one member absent, to delay action for 45 days. It provided a breather welcomed by almost all of the combatants enmeshed in the city's war for the bathhouses.

The committee did not directly address the sex ban — the proposal to outlaw Gay sex at sex clubs and baths. Instead, it pondered a related measure on who will have the power to create regulations — such as the sex ban rules. The Chief of Police currently has that authority. The Director of Public Health wants it transferred to him.

And that's the connection — the Public Health Director, Dr. Mervyn Silverman, is the man who drafted the sex ban rules. If Silverman is given the power to regulate the baths, he told the supervisors, he will lose no time in pushing for the sex ban regulations.

So, while Silverman's sex ban was not on the official agenda, the supervisors heard about little else. A coalition of seven Gay, Lesbian, and civil rights groups pleaded for delay. Silverman and City Attorney George Agnost pleaded for speedy action.

But the supervisors were in no mood to be rushed. Fundamental legal objections, murky medical evidence, and complaints the issue was being railroaded through City Hall combined to convince Hongisto and Kennedy to stop the action — at least for now.

Their hope is that the 45-day delay will clarify the issues. At last week's hearing, confusion reigned. The testimony was complex and sometimes contradictory. The proposals were confusing. And the remarks were occasionally weird. The Director of Health testified on law. The City Attorney testified on medicine. Analogies were made to sex acts in restaurants. And the openly Gay attorney for the police department defended the right of police officers to visit bathhouses "for recreational purposes."

When the dust settled, key questions emerged: how to save citizens' lives, and how to preserve citizens' rights. Kennedy and Hongisto said they were unconvinced that giving Silverman control over the baths would promote either goal.

Said Kennedy, "I have consistently supported the humanitarian efforts to provide care for people with AIDS and to seek a solution to their suffering. However, it is very questionable as to



Who Gets Control? The power to regulate bathhouse sex was at issue as Supervisor Harry Britt (back to camera, right) addressed his colleagues Richard Hongisto and Willie Kennedy. (Photo: Rink)

how, or in what manner, the legislation before us today addresses these issues.

"Just as the City Attorney has advised the Director of Public Health to move slowly in formulating any new laws or regulations regarding bathhouses, so does it seem appropriate, to me, that the Board of Supervisors should move cautiously and deliberately . . . Given the size of the problem we face, and the possible legal effects of our actions, we should take the time to carefully consider the measures. Forty-five days seems okay — and no one can seriously argue that we are just prolonging the problem," Kennedy said.

Hongisto said he had seven specific objections to the proposal to give Silverman power to regulate the baths. Most of the objections were on legal and civil rights grounds. "There is divergence here in legal views — and in views on medical evidence, and sociological evidence," Hongisto said.

The supervisor was openly critical of Agnost. "The City Attorney appeared here today and did not give us legal advice. Instead, he came here as an advocate of a piece of legislation. And, really, he gave us no legal views. I was struck by that," Hongisto said.

Hongisto also criticized Agnost for the way he was handling the proposals to regulate bathhouses. "It appears that at-

torneys who might hold different views — especially from the Gay and Lesbian community — were not given adequate opportunities to give input and review," Hongisto said.

The supervisors' action was intended to provide time for such input and review. During the 45-day hiatus, Lesbian and Gay lawyers, along with other civil rights attorneys, are to prepare a "white paper" on the issue. The paper will explore the civil rights aspects of the various bathhouse proposals. It will be presented to all the members of the Board of Supervisors.

THE LEGAL ISSUES

During last week's hearing,

it is easier for citizens to protect their rights in dealing with the police, the lawyers argued. If the health department gets control, rights might be violated more easily, they said.

"There is a clear body of law limiting what police can do in bathhouses," said constitutional lawyer Jay Kohorn of Los Angeles. "There is no such body of law dealing with the health department, and defining its power in regulating adult behavior in bathhouses."

Hongisto accepted this argument in explaining his vote to delay. "There is a sense within the community of how to deal with the police department, and the civilian police review panel also allows more public response," Hongisto said.

A second legal concern was privacy. The sex ban rules which Silverman hopes to put in place would force owners to remove doors and brighten lights.

"If the veil of privacy is pierced, no longer will people using these facilities have a reasonable expectation of privacy. Police would have the right — in fact, the duty — to go in and make arrests for lewd and lascivious conduct," Kohorn said.

Constitutional lawyers and some Gay activists are also concerned about the legal precedent which may be set in San Francisco. "What we see here is the first use of a medical problem as the foundation for the state to delve into the private, consensual behavior of adults," Kohorn said. "There's nothing to stop recriminalization of consensual sexual activity throughout the U.S., if we follow this argument."

MEDICAL ISSUES

The hearing was long on medical argument, but short on

facts. Silverman and Agnost made repeated references to studies and statistics, but in no case did they cite the names of studies or the sources of their statistics.

"Facilities which foster multiple sex acts are in fact fostering behavior which is deadly," Silverman said.

He was challenged by Kennedy. "If this is so, and since you have that power, I can't understand why you have not used your emergency powers to close the bathhouses," Kennedy said.

"The evidence has not been at all clear," Silverman responded.

Later, in his prepared testimony, City Attorney Agnost repeated the same themes. "This is a disease whose victims are characterized by multiple, random sex contacts," Agnost said. But he also said, "The etiology (cause) of this disease is not determined."

Such medical testimony prompted Hongisto to interrupt. "Excuse me. I'm not used to hearing from the City Attorney on health. I'm waiting for you to begin talking about the legal questions."

In shared testimony from Silverman and Agnost, reference was made to a study which was unfamiliar to the Gay AIDS activists in the room. Silverman said, "... a study shows that victims of AIDS are 2½ to 10 times more likely to have been frequenters of bathhouses." But the health director never cited the source of the study or discussed how it was conducted. Later, Agnost also cited the study — again, not by name — and this time it came out, "as we have heard, patrons of these establishments are 10 times more likely to become victims of AIDS."

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NATIONAL NEWS

NY Catholics May Lose Funds Over Discrimination Law

New York - The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York stands to lose as much as \$60 million in contracts with the city to operate child-care programs because it refuses to comply with a city policy against anti-Gay discrimination.

Archbishop John O'Connor last week told members of Courage, an organization of Gay Catholics which is committed to celibacy, "We would rather close our child-care agencies rather than violate church teaching."

O'Connor's remarks were published in the archdiocesan

newspaper, *Catholic New York*. The archbishop said the Roman Catholic Church is "on record" a being in favor of antidiscrimination efforts, but added, "There is a tremendous difference between a controlled inclination (celibacy) and an endorsement of active homosexual behavior," which the church condemns.

"I cannot change church teaching," he said. "I cannot be ambiguous. I cannot fudge on it."

Mayor Edward Koch earlier this year issued an executive order that agencies doing busi-

ness with the city cannot discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

The policy cost the Salvation Army \$4.5 million last March after it refused to comply with the directive. The Archdiocese has contracts with the city worth about \$60 million, according to the *New York Daily News*.

Koch declined to comment on the matter, saying he would wait until he was briefed by the city attorney.

O'Connor, in a speech before the American Jewish Committee last month, declared that the church considers "the practice of homosexuality sinful and unnatural." ■

— *New York Native and San Francisco Chronicle*

It May Take Act of Congress to Keep Longstaff in U.S.

Washington, DC - A "private bill" was introduced in the House last Thursday to grant to Richard Longstaff what the Immigration and Naturalization Service — and the courts — have refused to give him: American citizenship.

Rep. Michael Leland (D-TX), in whose Houston district is located one of Longstaff's two hair salons and clothing stores, introduced the measure at the

request of the Gay Rights National Lobby. The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear Longstaff's appeal of a lower court decision which upheld the INS's denial of his citizenship. The INS said Longstaff entered the country under false pretenses.

Longstaff emigrated from his native Britain in 1965. He denied to INS examiners, at that time, that he was afflicted with

a psychopathic personality. Immigration law still lists homosexuality as a condition of psychopathic personality — despite a 1973 ruling by the American Psychiatric Association that homosexuality is not a psychiatric disorder.

The bill — which would apply only to Longstaff — must be approved by both the House and the Senate and signed by President Reagan before it can be enacted. Its introduction, however, will, for the time being, force a suspension of deportation proceedings against Longstaff by the INS. ■

— *Washington Blade*

STATE NEWS

Baptist Pickets Protest San Diego MCC, Gay Parade

by George Mendenhall

An independent fundamentalist Baptist group in San Diego has begun to openly appear at Gay events to protest. Metropolitan Community Church had 13 pickets at a late May service and 175 demonstrators congregated at the annual Gay Pride Parade Saturday, June 9.

The Bible Missionary Fellowship members shouted their anger when women members of MCC appeared with children in their arms, forcing the women to use a side entrance. One protestor called out, "Do you want to turn your children into perverts?" Another carried a sign, "God Hates Homosexuals."

Early notice that the Baptists would appear produced a record turn-out inside the church. Inside, Rev. David Farrell told the over-flow crowd "These people have been around since the time of the Apostles. They used to call them Pharisees." Outside, a Baptist minister was telling the news media, "You can't come to Christ and be a homosexual. God says they are fools."

Local activists staged a Town Hall at MCC to discuss the coming Lambda Pride Parade and word of a possible Baptist protest. Mary Lou SanBlise of San Diego's *Update* told the group, "I am angry that they are calling the shots."

She urged the local parade committee to send the Baptist group an engraved invitation as "If anything would turn them off it would be the feeling that we want them there." She was cheered and the "Welcome" signs were made for the parade.

Marchers in the annual parade last Saturday faced 175 members of the fundamentalist group, who had a relatively silent protest vigil. This time, the Gay community was ready with their own signs — "Thanks for All the Free Publicity" and "Homosexuals Support Free Speech." Police officers, who had contemplated a possible confrontation, were at ease.

SanBlise was pleased. "We turned it around by putting the Baptists in an immediate second-class status. They can come and play in my playground any time they want." ■

W. Hollywood to Challenge S.F. as Gay Capital

Los Angeles - West Hollywood is one step closer to perhaps becoming the first city in America — in fact, the world — with a majority-Gay population. The step was taken in the form of a unanimous vote by a county commission that West Hollywood's bid for cityhood is finan-

cially feasible.

The unanimity of the vote astonished cityhood supporters and enraged opponents, who fear rent control and higher property taxes.

If West Hollywood — the heart of which is Boystown —

becomes a city, it would have the highest per capita concentration of Gay residents of any city in the world. Estimates of West Hollywood's Gay population range as high as 52 percent.

Barring a threatened lawsuit by a group of property owners opposed to cityhood, the proposal by the West Hollywood Incorporation Committee will go on the November ballot. ■

— *Update, San Diego*

Constanza Gets a Hollywood Job Insists She Has Not 'Sold Out'

Midge Costanza, who served as the Assistant for Public Liaison under President Jimmy Carter, has been hired by one of the nation's largest television/movie producers, Alan Landsburg. Her new Hollywood position is Costanza's first full-time position since she served 20 months under Carter in the late 1970's.

It was Costanza who opened

the national door to Lesbian and Gay rights on March 26, 1977, when she welcomed a group of Gay activists inside the White House to hear their concerns. This was followed by contacts being opened up in several federal departments with staff members — contacts that are still valuable to the 6,000-member National Gay Task Force.

Has she "sold out"? Costanza denies it, emphasizing that she worked in Assemblyman Tom Hayden's campaign and is scheduled to sing at a coming fundraiser for Steve Schulte, a Gay candidate for Los Angeles City Council.



POLITICS AND POKER

The Nation's Eyes Turn to Our Town

WAYNE FRIDAY

Mayor Feinstein and her closest political advisors do not seriously expect Walter Mondale to tap her as his vice choice, but all the publicity Her Honor is getting surely can't hurt her when she starts looking at a possible statewide race (governor, maybe?); Feinstein not only made the cover of *Time* recently, but her photo has also graced the front page of the *New York Times* twice in the past couple of weeks, and Feinstein appeared this past Sunday on NBC's highly rated "Meet the Press" program. • As for the search for a Mondale running-mate, pressure grows on the probable nominee to ask Gary Hart to run with him, but the two have grown to dislike each other and Mondale's people know he will have little chance of defeating Reagan without substantial Southern support, so after the current charade of "interviewing prospective candidates" is over, the choice will probably narrow down to either Texas Senator Lloyd Bentsen or Arkansas Senator Dale Bumpers.

Attention, all of you holding outstanding parking tickets: Supervisor Jack Molinari will announce next month the starting date for his one-month amnesty plan. • Molinari, incidentally, last week received an early endorsement for re-election from the *California Voice*, and long-time political observers say they have never seen the popular Molinari working so hard in an election campaign; the veteran supe is out making speeches, cutting ribbons, and shaking hands seven days a week. • The *New York Times* ran a feature story entitled "For a Politician, Power and Riches Go Together" on Speaker Willie Brown last week; says the *Times*: "There are two things to remember about Willie Brown. He grew up poor, Black, and without power. Now he is rich and powerful, and he intends to stay that way. Mr. Brown has a good time in his exciting world. He is a fashion-plate dresser, escort for attractive women, driver of high-performance cars, associate of powerful people, skillful politician, doting father, good friend of his former wife, horseman, rich and successful lawyer . . ."

The San Francisco Bay Guardian has endorsed Lia Belli for Milton Marks' State Senate seat. • State Senator Milton Marks and campaign manager Joe Shumate have had an "amicable parting of the ways" and Marks has now hired Clin Reilly to manage his re-election campaign. • Ellen Chaitin, Art Simon, and Tom Steel are co-chairs of a fund-raiser/reception put on by the

City's legal community for Supervisor Harry Britt at the Washington Square Bar & Grill on June 28 (\$25, 4:30-6:30 p.m., no-host cocktails, 731-8498 for info).

In Reno, the fundamentalist Pro-Family Christian Coalition is at it again, trying to get the July 18 Reno Gay Rodeo canceled; as in the past two years, the Christian Coalition is circulating petitions to force the County Commission to rescind the proclamation making June 25 to July 1 Gay-Lesbian Week; Fargo Mayor Jon Lindgren says he will refuse to rescind the proclamation. • In Hollywood, they are saying that Jane Fonda will definitely run next year for president of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG), supposedly with the support of current SAG president Ed Asner.

As of press time, the three Democratic presidential candidates have all failed to respond to an invitation to march and/or speak to the July 15 National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights.

In Massachusetts, the latest to enter the 10th Congressional District race against incumbent Gerry Studds is a Republican candidate who says he will make Studds' censure by the House a major campaign issue. Claiming Studds suffers from "diminished effectiveness," Republican Lewis Crampton joined four Democrats in opposing the openly Gay congressman, who faces a tough Democratic primary fight in September. • A big Democratic Party donor grumbling to me about Lia Belli's very aggressive fundraising techniques: "I don't even give that much to established politicians," he complained.

Everyone I spoke with agreed that Mayor Dianne handled herself superbly on Sunday's "Meet the Press" program where she appeared with Philadelphia Mayor Wilson Goode; Feinstein came off well-versed in everything from foreign policy to fiscal crisis in the cities and the closest issue of San Francisco's Gay community came to the program was when Hearst's Marianne Means asked the mayor how San Francisco would handle the expected demonstrations from "diverse groups" at next month's convention. Feinstein replied that the "right to demonstrate will be protected, but precautions were being taken to insure that all demonstrations were peaceful" and that violence was neither expected nor would be tolerated.

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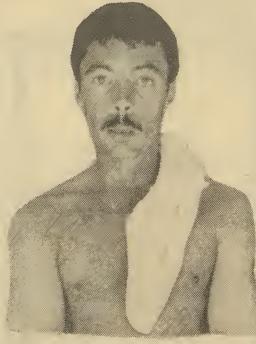
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Primary Post Mortem

Gay Candidates Win Voters' Support

Who Placed Where on June 5 Ballot

by Wayne Friday

The June 5 primary election brought few surprises, and in fact proved, as many thought, that the Bay Area is indeed Gary Hart country. Among those Gay and Lesbian candidates on the ballot, the hopefuls — for the most part — fared well with San Francisco voters.

In the fight for delegate seats to the Democratic convention here next month, Supervisor Harry Britt and former Toklas president Connie O'Connor were elected as Hart delegates in the 5th Congressional District, while Toklas' current president, Sal Rosselli, was elected as an alternate delegate pledged to Walter Mondale.

In the 6th Congressional District, which includes parts of the City as well as Marin County, and where Hart ran the strongest, former Milk Club president Gwenn Craig placed seventh to win a seat as an alternate Hart delegate.

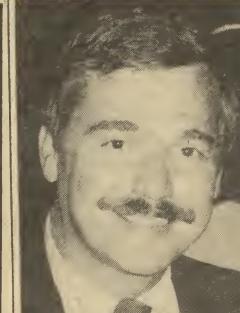


Greg Day (Photo: Rink)

A crowded race for seats on the San Francisco County Democratic Central Committee did not stop a number of Gays and Lesbians from victory, with incumbent Louise Minnick, Carole Migden, Greg Day, Catherine Dodd, and incumbent Ron Huberman winning seats in the 17th Assembly District. The Milk Club's Gwenn Craig, however, lost a re-election bid to the county committee in the 17th district, by 48 votes.

In the 16th Assembly District, Connie O'Connor led the ticket, receiving a whopping 14,798 votes, obviously helped by her first place ballot position; incumbents Jack Trujillo and Cleve Jones easily won re-election while another incumbent, Steve Krefting, placed just out of the winner's circle, finishing 11th.

On the Republican side, Bob Bacci, a former president of



Ron Huberman (Photo: Rink)

CRIR running in the 19th Assembly Republican primary race, was edged out by conservative Robert Silvestri, but won re-election to a seat on the GOP County Central Committee in the 19th district.

In the 16th Assembly District, two well-known Gay activists, Gary Myerscough and Kevin Wadsworth, won seats on the GOP County Committee. Myerscough is an incumbent and Wadsworth was familiar to voters, having twice been a candidate for supervisor. Another Gay Republican, Andrew Bancourt, lost a bid for a supervisor seat by a mere 2 votes.

In the 17th Assembly District there were no winners among Gay candidates for the GOP committees, although former CRIR president Duke Armstrong polled nearly 4,000 votes to become the highest vote-getter among a score of Gays running.

In the East Bay, two well-known Gay activists, Armand Boulay and Leland Traiman, won seats on the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee.

In other Bay Area results, Democrat Lin Belli impressed observers with her strong voting in the 3rd State Senatorial District, where she polled 58,000 votes compared to 24,279 for her primary opponent. Incumbent Republican Senator Milton Marks received over



Carole Migden (Photo: Rink)

(running against the GOP's Robert Silvestri) should have no problems in the November general election.

San Francisco voters showed they wanted nothing to do with Robert Guichard's bothersome habit of messing with the Board of Supervisors; Guichard's plan would have reduced the board from its current 11 members to 7, and was beaten by 2-to-1 vote.

Proposition J — "another good idea from Quentin" (what was his *other* one?) — the collection of jail incarceration costs from defendants, passed hand-

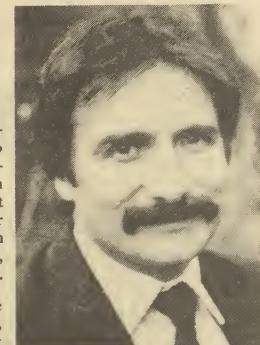


Connie O'Connor (Photo: Rink)

ily. It proved not that Quentin has good ideas but rather that few voters like jail inmates. This measure was opposed by Sheriff Mike Hennessey, who said, "What do we do if they don't pay — evict them?"

Another important measure, Proposition A, which would have given relaxed working conditions and fringe benefits for City employees, was seen by most as costly. Thanks to the combined efforts of Kopp and Mayor Feinstein, it was voted down by the voters.

Of the statewide propositions, the most controversial was Prop. 24, the Gann Initiative, designed to curb the legislative powers of the majority party in general, and the near-supreme powers of Speaker Willie Brown in particular. It passed easily, and the losers in this one went directly to court to challenge the legality of the proposition. ■



Sal Rosseli (Photo: Rink)

38,000 votes running unopposed and the combined Democratic vote in that district of over 83,000 votes (Marin and part of the City) gives the Marks supporters real reason for worry in the November faceoff between Belli and Marks.

Fifth District Congresswoman Sala Burton will have no problem with perennial Republican nominee Tom Spinosa in the fall, although 6th district Congresswoman Barbara Boxer could find that her Republican opponent, Douglas Binderup, might prove to be a tough foe.

San Francisco's Democratic incumbent Assembly members, Willie Brown (running against Republican Lee Dolson), Art Agnos (opposed by Republican Max Woods), and Louis Papan

No Gay Rights in Demo Platform

(Continued from page 1)

week in Washington. Her testimony spelled out what Gays want in the platform.

The basic Gay agenda this year includes support of the national Gay rights bill, a change in the anti-Gay immigration laws, an end to discrimination in the military, and a greatly-expanded federal effort to find an AIDS vaccine.

Ferraro, meanwhile, continues to be quoted as saying that Gay rights will be assumed under a broader civil rights plank. That statement last week led Apuzzo to snap about the platform chair, Ferraro: "Let her come to San Francisco and tell that to 100,000 Gay people."

Local Gay leaders agreed. Carole Migden, president of the Harvey Milk Club said, "The Democratic Party can't come here and tell us they're going back on promises they made four years ago because they're afraid of the New Right. We left the closet once and we're not going back."

One major issue is what the platform will say about AIDS. Kraus' testimony in Washington included a passionate denunciation of the slowness of the Reagan administration's response to AIDS and a strong appeal to include support for sufficient resources "to find a vaccine and help save our lives."

Kraus said, "They listened. They have to know that it would be terrible to come to this city, where there has been so much suffering, and say nothing about it. But sometimes there's this



Virginia Apuzzo (Photo: Rink)

response of, 'so why is your disease so much more important than all the others?' It gets very frustrating."

The platform committee begins its final meeting today (Thursday) through this Sunday in Washington. Besides Kraus and Apuzzo, Gay members of the committee include Terje Anderson of Vermont, Rick Stafford of Minnesota, and Ross Brubaker of Washington.

One of the problems in dealing with the Platform committee is the fact that, because of party rules, its membership keeps changing. After each state chooses its delegates, its platform members are reviewed by the winning candidate. In California, that happened only last Saturday.

Platform members can attend

the hearings all over the country, then be dumped from the committee just at the point when it is writing the final party platform. Last week a spirited lobbying campaign by Gays across California and on the East Coast saved Kraus' seat on the platform committee, when Hart forces seemed likely to replace him.

Hart campaign sources said that the critical factor in saving Kraus' seat was a strong telegram from San Francisco Supervisor Harry Britt, who led the Hart ticket in the City. Britt was said to have argued that replacing Kraus at this point, with his knowledge of the process and the people involved in getting a Gay platform plank, would "sabotage" the Gay effort.

The appeal to keep Kraus on the final platform eventually reached as high as national Democratic Chairman Charles Manatt, and involved all of California's Lesbian and Gay Hart delegates, the presidents of all three city Gay Democratic Clubs, the state Gay caucus, and the National Association of Lesbian and Gay Democratic Clubs.

The Platform Committee will make its final decision on a Gay rights plank this weekend. If Gays' effort there is not successful, the Gay platform members have the option of getting 25 per cent of the platform members to sign a minority plank, which then becomes the subject of a floor fight on the convention floor in San Francisco next month.

This prospect is believed to be one of the Gay platform members' strongest bargaining chips, since party leaders want to avoid a nationally televised fight over Gay rights.

"It'll be a very rough four days," Kraus said of this weekend's platform meetings. "Things happen fast and you have to negotiate and figure out how hard you can push and you have to make sure all the Lesbian and Gay platform members agree exactly on what it is we are pushing for. This process has been going on for months and I think we're ready."

Both Kraus and Apuzzo have been through this before; they were both members of the 1980 platform committee where, after bruising internal and external battles, they won the Democratic party's historic first-ever commitment to Gay rights.

W. Friday



"A Real Hero." Wound shows how close Jeffery Potter came to death in stabbing tussle: the knife entered above his shoulder—and was an inch from his heart. (Photo: Rink)

Hero at Midnight Sun

(Continued from page 1)

The woman was stabbed in the upper chest and ran toward the front door of the crowded bar, followed by the man with the knife. Witnesses say they saw her stabbed again in the back. The man then ran out of the bar.

Paul Boneberg, a local Gay political leader, saw Karla Mora scream and watched the man with knife in hand run down 18th Street and up Hartford towards 19th Street. When police arrived just moments later, they found Karla Mora outside the bar on the sidewalk and Jeff Potter inside the bar, both with stab wounds. They were both rushed to Mission Emergency Hospital for treatment. Jeffery Potter required surgery. Both have now been re-

leased from the hospital.

"This guy Potter is a real hero," said Police Inspector Robert Shepherd, who is investigating the case. "He had no connection with the lady, but when he saw her being accosted, he intervened. He came into life with a half-inch of losing his life."

Shepherd said he needs witnesses to help police identify and track down the stabbing suspect, who remains at large. "The bar was packed that night. There were dozens of people who saw this guy. We need their help," Shepherd said. Witnesses may call Shepherd at 553-1141.

The suspect was described as being about 30, with a dark day growth of beard, wearing a white shirt with blue pinstripes, tan pants, and carrying a Walkman radio.

A. White

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Raw Rahs No More

Gay Cheerleading Group Calls It Quits After Almost Three Years

by Allen White

The Hayward Raw Rahs, a popular Gay cheerleading group, stunned several hundred people last Saturday night when it announced its demise. The statement came at mid-point through its 1984 Homecoming Celebration at the Spoiled Brat, a dance bar in Hayward.

Guy Andrade, leader of the group, said a decision was made last week to break up the group. He said its performance schedule had become too demanding and that "we wanted to stop while we were still friends." Andrade announced that the final performance of the group will be next Sunday on the stage of the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Celebration. The Raw Rahs are scheduled to perform between 2 and 2:30 p.m.

Andrade said the group had been fun, that its members had made friends, and not one person had quit the group. It was

formed in November 1981, and there have been three Hayward Raw Rahs squads. The 1982 squad had five members, the 1983 group six, and the current 1984 group has seven members.

The Raw Rahs' first performance was at a Homecoming Celebration in 1982 at the Turf Club in Hayward. Two months later it performed at the body-building competition of the Gay Games at the Castro Theatre. Word quickly spread, and the group fast became one of the most popular volunteer performing groups in Northern California.

The purpose of the group, according to Andrade, was to create a spirit of pride in Hayward's Gay community. The Raw Rahs performed at virtually every Gay bar in Hayward and most Gay bars in the East Bay. Most of these performances were fundraising events, and the group raised several thousand dollars during its almost three-year existence.

The Hayward Raw Rahs performed twice at the Cable Car Awards, at two San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parades atop the Hayward Gay Sheriff's float, at the CMC Anniversary, and literally dozens of other events. Its last two appearances in San Francisco were at a fundraiser at Chaps for Dykes on Bikes and at the Castro Dog Show.

Andrade said the Raw Rahs would reorganize to participate in the 1986 Gay Games. More than 500 people attended the Spoiled Brat's Homecoming event last Saturday night, and close to \$1,000 was raised for the East Bay AIDS Foundation. ■



The Hayward Raw Rahs performing at the '84 Cable Car Awards. (Photo: Rink)

EBL/GDC Discusses County AIDS Plan

The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club held a public forum June 10 to discuss Alameda County's response to requests for AIDS funding. Present on the panel were Lupin Loughborough of East Bay AIDS Resources Organization; Dorothy Graham, executive director of the Alameda County Health Consortium; and Jeremy Landau, director of the Pacific Center's AIDS Resource Project.

After much lobbying from EBL/GDC and other organizations, county health officers finally presented a plan to the Board of Supervisors May 29, requesting funding for medical services at Fairmont and Highland Hospitals, in San Leandro and Oakland. An AIDS clinic will begin operating at Fairmont in August, and those requiring

surgery or hospitalization will be seen at Highland.

Loughborough, Graham, and Landau all criticized the county's response as "too little," but offered hope that increasing lobbying could result in more funding. The county, according to Graham, has less funding available and more responsibilities, since Proposition 13 took effect. Supervisors often pit one group against the other.

"If we hadn't often gone to the media, we wouldn't have the funding we have now," Graham said. She urged the Lesbian and Gay community, and all those interested in aiding people with AIDS, to use the media effectively to affect the supervisors, who seem to respond only to public pressure.

Landau said present county funding allows nothing for psycho-social services, such as

counseling, help in finding housing, etc.

EBARO member Jim Chambers urged those present to write letters to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors requesting additional funding for AIDS services. About 50 letters were generated at the meeting. The public can help by writing their supervisor at the following address: 1221 Oak St., 5th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612.

Who to write: John George - Berkeley, North Oakland; Fred Cooper - Central & East Oakland, Alameda; Joe Bort - Oakland Hills, Castro Valley; Charles Santana - Hayward; San Leandro; Don Excell - Fremont, Livermore.

For further information on EBARO, or the progress of talks with the county, call Jim at 655-6975. ■

East Bay Election Results

Election day in the East Bay saw a lot of success for the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club slate card.

For U.S. Congress, Ron Dellums (Berkeley/Oakland), Pete Stark (Hayward), and George Miller (Contra Costa County) all won by lopsided majorities. All are strong friends of Gay rights legislation.

In the State Senate races, there was a split decision. While pro-Gay Senator Nicholas Petris (Berkeley/Oakland) overwhelmingly defeated a LaRouche candidate, anti-Gay Senator Dan Boatwright (Contra Costa County) defeated Diana Patrick of Martinez, who had stated her support for AB-1.

In the State Assembly races, all four friends of the Gay community easily won renomination by the Democratic Party; Robert Campbell (Richmond), Tom Bates (Berkeley), Elihu Harris (Oakland), and Johan Klehs (Hayward). Although these representatives can be counted on to vote again on AB-1, Klehs will be challenged by an anti-Gay Republican in November.

For Alameda County Supervisor, John George, the lone liberal voice on the board, was unopposed. He represents Berkeley and Oakland. A challenge by Margaret Tracy to conservative Republican Don Excell in the Livermore area was easily defeated. Tracy had pledged her support for Gay concerns on the county level. Marge Gibson of Oakland, author of the toughest Gay rights law in California, was endorsed by EBL/GDC, and contrary to expectations and polls, she succeeded in making the November run-off election with 24% of the vote, against 32% for her chief rival. She was

the only woman in a field of seven candidates, and if elected this fall, she will be the only woman on the County Board of Supervisors.

Peggy Hora of Hayward amassed an impressive 45% of the primary vote in competition with three male opponents. She will face a run-off election this autumn on her road to becoming southern Alameda County's first woman judge ever. All of the above results were in the Democratic primary. Alameda County is nearly two-thirds Democratic in registration.

For Berkeley Rent Board, the EBL/GDC endorsed six candidates. The following were victorious: John Brauer, Betty Olds, Kathy Pugh, and Michael Sims. Francesca Callejo lost by only about 100 votes. Berkeley Measure D (Charter Revision) passed by a slim margin, while Measure E (Settlements) was easily defeated by 40% to 60%.

For Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, District 5 (Berkeley/Oakland), the EBL/GDC was the only endorsing organization out of seven clubs that had a 100%



Marge Gibson (r.) and EBL/GDC's Joe Acanfora

record. Armand Boulay, EBL/GDC president, was the only nonincumbent to defeat an incumbent. He led the field of 14 candidates in Berkeley with 11,400 votes of the 19,100 district-wide total he garnered. Ann Chandler led district-wide with more than 21,000 votes and was a close second in Berkeley

with 11,200 votes. Also winning were Jerry Jackson, committee vice-chair; Elizabeth Laurenson, who sits on the Oakland Board of Education where she authored the Gay anti-discrimination clause to school district policy; Carla Dillard Smith; Leland Traiman, veteran Berkeley Gay activist; and Ramon

Sevilla. All but Smith are members of EBL/GDC. There were other successes in central committee races in the other four districts, most notable of which was the close but decisive defeat of LaRouche candidates in the Fremont area by liberal friends Mark Stein, Joyce Lanto, and Liz Figaroa. ■

San Jose Gay Pride

More than 1,000 Gay men and Lesbians gathered in St. James Park in San Jose last Sunday for the city's annual Gay pride rally.

"It looks like this is going to be the best year ever," said Sal Accardi, owner of the Watergarden bathhouse there. "Considering the setbacks we've had, the sense of working together is bigger than ever."

The festival was a cross between a neighborhood bazaar and a rock concert. Twenty-three booths offered everything from information about Gays in high tech industries to pamphlets on AIDS. On the stage, a pair of speakers blasted music that sent tremors through the celebrants. Linda Clifford, a rhythm and blues vocalist, was the main attraction, but the crowd was also treated to the sounds of the Gay Men's choir, and other Lesbian and Gay choruses. Some danced under a rainbow of balloons on a plywood surface that had been laid down just yards from the statue of former President William McKinley.

The rally was sponsored by the Gay Freedom Day committee, which estimated its cost for putting on the rally at \$12,000. ■

VD Clinic

A VD clinic by and for Gay men will be held this Sunday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Avenue, Berkeley. It is free and confidential. For more information call 644-0425. ■

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East Bay Gay Day



All Photos
This Page
by Rink

by John Wetzel

Booths and balloons adorned Berkeley's Ho Chi Minh Park last Sunday as Gay men and Lesbians celebrated the East Bay Gay community's increasing visibility in 1984. Almost 2,000 people gathered for the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Celebration. Participants wandered among booth displays as diverse as the Feminists for Animal Rights and the North American Man/Boy Love Association. But what was described as the event's most political lineup in memory went mostly ignored by the usually integrated female and male audience.

"The crowd just wanted to sit back and enjoy the afternoon, and that's what they did," said the event's co-chair, Robert Kegeles. Comparing this event with the massive Market Street parade scheduled for next Sunday, Kegeles said, "We're much more laid back."

There was no parade this year, but then last year was the first time a parade has been associated with the Pacific Center-originated event.

"There are drawbacks to having a parade," said Kegeles. "One is that it makes it seem that we're trying to look like San Francisco, and that's not the case. We'd like to keep it a very joyous celebration and the parade hypes it."

In the future organizers would like to move the celebration closer to a BART station for a larger draw. Also, the need was seen for earlier and more community-based planning for the event to be a greater success.

"The only people who printed our press release was the *Bay Area Reporter*," said Kegeles. That was the extent of publicity, except for an outreach mailing to local organizations.

"I had hoped more people would be here," Kegeles said. "I see very much that our political power is growing, especially in the East Bay. The spirit of the event showed in the number of booths (there were 45). This year the celebration was more politi-

"This makes us more visible," said co-chair Barbara di Jeannene. "I'd like to see a lot more things going on in the East Bay in the Gay community. I was disappointed in the lack of community support. But it's hard to do outreach to the community for bodies to help. A lot of it is organizing ahead of time. All in all it went beautifully. With the committee itself we had no problems."

The Alameda Health Care Services agency displayed AIDS statistics and other health-related literature for the first time. The people organizing the National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights plugged the July 15 event. The Pacific Center, the Gay Men's Health Collective, Plexus, Connexions, and the U.C. Berkeley Gay and Lesbian Union all were represented.

Prepared statements were delivered from Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport and Oakland City Councilwoman Marge Gibson. Other speakers and artists included Human Rights Campaign Fund co-chair and East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club Finance Chair Kerry Woodward, Oakland City Councilman and 1985 Oakland mayoral candidate Wilson Riles, Jr., Berkeley Citizens Action co-chair Ann Chandler, gospel singer Gwen Avery, Women Against Imperialism, and self-announced emcee Jon Sugar.



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OAKLAND

Is It Just Me?

NIZ PAS

INQUISITORIAL PERAMBULATIONS (A Paul Pry Nose?)

May be I'm just being a nosy nose, as it were, but is anybody else curious enough to seek answers to the following ramblings?

- Simultaneous functions that take away from the effectiveness of either event confuse me. Can't the planners contact other facilitators and coordinate schedules so there is minimum conflict?

- Last Saturday was the last chance to help support the Oakland Marching Corps at the Lake Lounge. A "Cover the Earth" party included bingo, raffles, and prizes — and, of course, the Oakland Pom Poms, who were also in Hayward showing support for the Hayward Raw Rabs at the Spoiled Brat! Granted, there are about 28 Pom Poms (has the "community" seen the entire assembly?), but the splitting seems incongruous. Was it really planned that way?

- How come the Pom Poms didn't make appearances at all Oakland bars to raise funds, interest, support, and recognizability?

- A basket of bucks (\$500) raffle was supposed to have tickets available after May 20 for an August 1 drawing. What happened?

- A "First Annual Daddy Contest" on Father's Day last must have, I guess, gotten lost in the frantic shuffle some how, some way! Right?

- How come there are "those" who choose to run for a title — with verve, passion and esprit — and immediately upon winning either disappear, or become dormant until it's time to relinquish their appellation? Makes it kind of rough on those who do do

something with their titles. Can't something be done about this?

- Why is it that advertising and promotion seem to be a thing of the past? If bodies are expected to appear, shouldn't complete coverage and canvassing be the cardinal rule of the game?

- Are there "cliques" adoptive to a bar who deliberately ignore other bars and then complain vehemently when sought support doesn't materialize?

- Whatever happened to "one hand washes the other," or "you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours"? Polarization exists in Oakland, unfortunately, and it always goes directly adverse to all the Gay parade themes. Does this help build "our community"?

- Egads! How come I wrote oast (an oven for drying malt, hops, and tobacco) in my last column and it came printed roast (which has a variety of meanings)?

- Is it true that the reason Fat Freddie has all those "Harvey's" napkins is because he has an interest in the place? He told me so. I've put money into Harvey's too, but never received any napkins! Maybe a jack pot or two, but then . . . ?

- How can Empress Cha Cha possibly entertain in Hayward, then in Modesto (at a "Pleasant Pheasant" affair), then back to Hayward — all in the same night? How many actually appreciate all her efforts?

- Is it just me, or does anyone else get reminded of the Oakland A's when they see the Oakland Pom Poms? (No, dear one, not their playing — their color of uniforms!)

- I was curious, so I had to ask. Here is the answer I received from one who knows. In case you're interested: Emperor

and Empress titles are owned by ACIE; Mr. & Ms. Gay/Foxy Lady titles are owned by Chuck and Carlos; King and Queen of Hearts of All Northern California titles are owned by Tony Valentine; Miss \$1.98 title is owned by Chuck and Carlos; Closet Ball Queen title is owned by Cha Cha; King Father and Queen Mother titles are owned by "your guess is as good as mine"; Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of All Northern California titles are owned by the previous; Mr. Lumberjack title is owned by Jim Brendon and the Bench & Bar. Got all that?

- How come David, of Bench & Bar, says that he is a "single girl" and is looking?

- Why is a certain waiter at Bench & Bar so worried that I'll mention the fact that he "won" Queen of the Ball (in drag yet!) at B Street in San Mateo? Just because Carol thought the outfit was "darling" doesn't mean whatshisname should get paranoied . . . or does it?

- When are the basket auctions in Hayward coming about? Soon, I hear!

- Is face lifting catching? (No, not Ethel's!) Redecorating and painting are soon taking place at Revol and Kelly's. Upper — er, make that mid - Telegraph is aiming for a new, smart sprucing up, if you will. It should all be completed by mid-July . . . hopefully?

- And, speaking of Town and Country, have you tried its new pool table? Yep, the beef is out totally and bank shots are in. Right, Sam?

- And, speaking of Peter (White Horse), isn't anyone still interested in the East Bay pool tournaments? Round robins are still in vogue, aren't they?

- And, speaking of acceptance,

if you're so inclined, ACIE applications are now out for the first County ELECTED Grand Duke and Grand Duchess. Solicitations are due by Friday, June 29, for the soiree on Sunday, August 12, to be held at Ollie's Radcliff Hall at 4 p.m. Any takers?

Cliff hanger number one is now solved and resolved! Cha Cha's Closet Ball is definitely scheduled for Saturday, July 21, at Ollie's Radcliff Hall, \$7 door opens at 7 p.m., and the metamorphosis begins at 8 p.m. Entry blanks are now available at Town & Country, Jubilee, Ollie's and the Spoiled Brat. Due date for same is Sunday, July 15, so how's about it?

- Clogwyn gibbet number two is answered also! Ed Paulson's obloquial, two-day birthday bash will be, naturally, at Big Mama's on Saturday and Sunday, June 30 and July 1. Is Daddy David doing the cooking again?

- Is "Irving" going to the Rus-

sian River again? I've heard rumors, but it's up to my Tita and Orca to get the organizing started — and completed! Will they do it?

- And finally, why do I want to give a tip of Nez's nose to Hayward Gay Sheriff Deputy, Phil Ward? Because he was at MG&MG/FL in Oakland, Fat Freddie's grand opening of paradise in Oakland, and Bench & Bar's Mr. Lumberjack in Oakland! That's class and a lot of drinking, too! How many in Oakland do the reverse support????

- Why does a poltergeist get into my typewriter? In last week's column I reported the second runner-up of the Mr. Lumberjack contest as Ron Holiday. It was Jerry Joint. My apologies!

In Oakland, will "Unity and More in '84" become a revolving door? I can't smile at that! Love,

Nez

WILD AND WOOLLY

BOB WOOL HOUSE

ULTIMATE TRUTH

with a tip of the hat to Dorothy Parker

Our life is a gay cabaret, like the song,
No way can we ever be thrown apart.
Our relationship's one that can never go wrong;
And I am Napoleon Bonaparte.

NINE TO FIVE

As the rat race at work gains momentum,
Now the trouble is really beginning.
As the good guys get screwed up and then some,
I think that the rats may be winning.

NOT ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

It doesn't take much livin'
To make our home a hovel.
At last my roommate's given in;
He cleans with pick and shovel.

INDEPENDENCE WEEK

DANCEHALL OPEN EVERY NIGHT



RUSSIAN RIVER RESORT

FRI. 6/29

DANCEHALL OPEN 10-2AM \$2

SAT. 6/30

Cabaret ANN WELDON 8PM DANCEHALL 10-4AM \$4
OUTDOOR BBQ NO COVER

SUN. 7/1

SUNDAY T AT 4PM

MON. 7/2

Cabaret ANN WELDON 10PM \$6
in the DANCEHALL OPEN 9PM \$2

TUES. 7/3

MARY BUFFETT "My Boyfriend is Back"
NO COVER

WED. 7/4

T·DANCE & BBQ 2PM COMEDIAN TOM AMMIANO
NO COVER

THURS. 7/5

DANCEHALL OPEN 10-2AM NO COVER

FRI. 7/6

S.F. BALLET BREAKDANCERS
MIDNIGHT \$2 IN DANCEHALL \$6

SAT. 7/7

CLAUDJA BARRY "Boogie Woogie Dancin Shoes", "Work Me Over"
OUTDOOR BBQ NO COVER

SUN. 7/8

SUNDAY T AT 4PM

MON. 7/9

AMANDA McBROOM Author of
"The Rose"

JULY 12-16

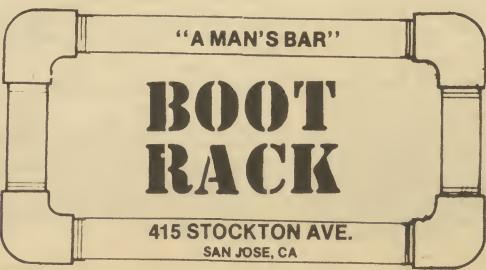
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Pumps

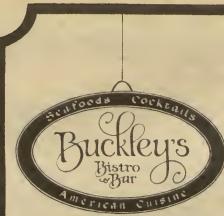


I know it's old-fashioned, but I just can't believe bustles are politically correct.



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RACK

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Saturday, June 30, 10:00 AM till Noon:
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THIS.

THURSDAY 21

• They're Back: The Polk District Merchants Association, along with everyone else in town, will commemorate the return of the cable cars with a neighborhood celebration, California St. between Polk and Van Ness, noon to 3 PM. Jane Dornacker will emcee a program of music and dance that will include The Vocal Minority, Dance Between the Lines, Stanford Marching Band, The Vague, and San Francisco's Ballet Celeste-International/Theatre Ballet of San Francisco. Senator Milton Marks, Supervisors Molinari, Kennedy, Renne, and Hongisto, and Mayor Dianne Feinstein will make brief presentations. Food and drink will be on sale.

• Subjects: drawings by Bruce Longland with photographs by Ken Towle, opening reception, Moby Dick, 4049 18th St., S.F., 6 to 9 PM. Complimentary champagne, music by Robert Barone.

• Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom: second annual dinner, Golden Gateway Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Hotel, #5 Embarcadero Center, S.F., 6 PM, \$40. Lt. Governor Leo McCarthy will make the address. Assemblyman Art Agnos and Senator David Roberti will be presented with a Legal Achievement Award for their work on AB-1.

• Menage a Trois: benefit for the National Lesbian/Gay Rights March and Third World Congress, The End Up, 401 6th St., S.F., 9 PM to 2 AM, cover.

• Gay Square Dancing: sponsored by Skip Barrett's Bay City Ramblers, 2140 Market St., S.F., 7 to 8:15 PM, intermediate to advanced; 8:15 to 9:30 PM, beginners, free.

• Lea Centauri: music, Mame's, 389 Bay at Mason, S.F., 9 and 10:30 PM, \$5.

• Fatal Positions: stage performance by Lilith, a women's theater, Zephyr Theatre, 595 Mission St. at 2nd, S.F., 8 PM, \$5. An evening of monologues in a musical format exploring women's relation to reproduction.

• Emmett: A One Mormon Show: comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6

• Tuffy Eldridge and Christa Hillhouse: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.

• Bad Drama: stage performance, by Richard Grey, directed by Robert W. Pittman, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2940 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8 and \$9.

• Psycho-Killer: stage performance, written and directed by Diana Saenz, Studio Rhino, 2940 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$6.

• Last Summer at Bluefish Cove: stage performance, Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St., S.F., 8 PM, \$15 and \$18. Award-winning playwright Jane Chambers' play about Lesbian love and death.

• Frontrunners: Fun Run, meet at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, S.F., 6 PM, free.

FRIDAY 22

• Sixth Annual Gay Musical Celebration: starring the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus with special guests San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus, Dick Kramer's Gay Men's Chorale, and the Barbary Coast Cloggers, Nourse Auditorium, Hayes St. at Franklin, S.F., 8 PM, \$6 to \$10.

• AIDS Fundraiser: Estuardo, Dolly, Camille, and Grand Duchess Sable will perform, Sound of Music, 162 Turk St., S.F., 9 and 11 PM, \$6. The nightclub has pledged 40% of its proceeds from the show to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

• Sunrise Over Chicago: stage performance, 2019 Blake St., Berkeley, 8:30 PM, \$5. The Blake Street Hawkeyes present Cynthia Moore's Adults.

• Swingshift: music, Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 8:30 PM, \$6 advance, \$7 at the door. Sharing the bill with the all-woman jazz band will be Grupo Raiz. The concert will be a benefit for Swingshift's September trip to Nicaragua.

• Lifenotes: music with Maura Shannon and Diane Schlactus, Newspace, 762 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$3 to \$5 sliding scale.

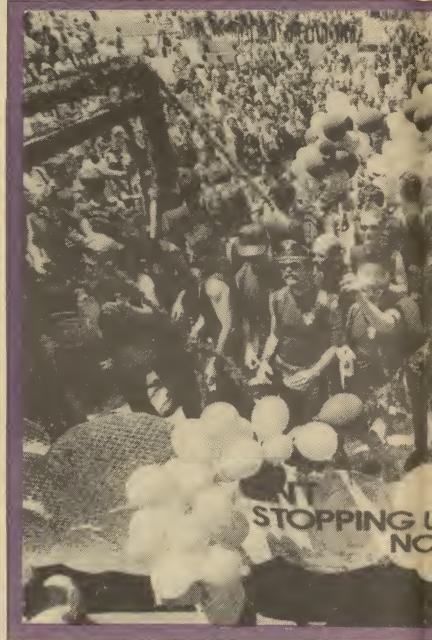
• Different Spokes: cable car celebration (no ride), meet at the New Bell Saloon, 1203 Polk St., S.F., 7 PM. Enjoy a night on the town with Different Spokes.

• Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day: monitor training session, The Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 7 to 10 PM.

• Danny Williams and Ralph Michaels: comedy/music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5.

• Bye-Bye Verdi: music, Mame's, 389 Bay at Mason, S.F., 9:30 PM, \$5. A lighthearted look at Grand Opera by Sam Bittner and five local opera "stars of tomorrow."

• Gloria Anzaldua: Chicana tejana poet, fiction writer, and co-editor of *This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color*, will read from her works which combine the Chicano, indigenous and Lesbian-



Castro Station's float in the '84 Gay Pride Parade.

feminist literary traditions, Old Wives Tales, 1009 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM, donation.

• Frank T. Ventgen: paintings and drawings, Ambush, 1351 Harrison St., S.F., opening 3 to 7 PM.

• Fatal Positions: stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).

• Midnight Mona: stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., midnight, \$6. The Noh Oratorio Society presents Mona Mandrake, legendary unclaimed chanteuse, performing the works of Bizet, Britten, Chase, Coward, Gershwin, Gore, Koper, Piaf, Satie, Shain, Wagner, Weill, and Carlos Garda, the Lord of Tango.

• Emmett: A One Mormon Show: comedy (see Thursday listing for details).

• Bad Drama: stage performance, \$9 and \$10 (see Thursday listing for details).

• Psycho-Killer: stage performance, \$7 (see Thursday listing for details).

• Monica Palacios and Marga Gomez: comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free. Followed by DJ Torch at 9 PM.

• Last Summer at Bluefish Cove: stage performance, \$17 and \$20 (see Thursday listing for details).

SATURDAY 23

• Midnight Dykes: Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel in a benefit for the National Lesbian Playwriting Contest, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., midnight, \$6.

• Footloose Dance Company: 10th anniversary celebration/benefit, Cafe Soma, 1601 Howard St. at 12th, S.F., 9 PM to 1 AM, \$6 to \$10 sliding scale. Live entertainment, dancing, and a free wine tasting. Comedian Ronda Slater will emcee.

• Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights: second annual Gay Freedom Picnic, California Railway Museum between Fairfield and Rio Vista on State Route 12, \$15. For more information, call Mike Sher 821-1600 days or 753-2999 evenings.

• John Coriolan: author of *Unzipped* and *Christy Dancing* will be at the Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 1 to 3 PM.

• Frontrunners: run across the Golden Gate Bridge, 1 to 3.6 miles, meet at 10 AM at the unpaved parking lot east of the toll plaza.

• Lifestyle and Health: seminar on alternative health styles, Trinity Episcopal Church, 1666 Bush St. at Gough, S.F., 10 AM to noon. Richard Kerr discusses ways to improve your health.

• Sunrise Over Chicago: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• Gay Comedy Extravaganza: the Valencia Rose celebrates its two and a half years of Gay comedy with all the comics who made it possible, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 and 10 PM, \$5. Tom Amiano and Marga Gomez will emcee.

• Jae Ross: music, Mame's, 389 Bay at Mason, S.F., 9 and 10:30 PM, \$5.

WEEK



In the '81 Parade. (Photo: Rink)

- Gay Day Tea Dance:** after the parade, Galleria, 101 Kansas St., S.F., 4 PM to midnight, \$12 advance, \$15 at the door. With Scherrie Payne, Boy Wonder, Magda Dioni, Sport, and Mr. Drummer '84. Sponsored by Sutter's Mill.
- Conjunto Cespedes:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4 to 8 PM. Afro-Cuban band.
- Frontrunners:** Gay Freedom Day pre-parade run, 2 to 4 miles, meet at 10 AM at Van Ness steps to City Hall.
- Fetal Positions:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- Bye-Bye Verdi:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay at Mason, S.F., 3:30 PM, \$5. A light-hearted look at Grand Opera with Sam Bittner and five local "stars of tomorrow."
- Bad Drama:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- The Linda Tillery Jazz Quartet:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM, free. With Mary Watkins, Bonnie Johnson and Mark Van Wageningen. Followed by DJ Susan Puckett at 9 PM.

MONDAY 25

- AIDS Fundraiser:** Estuardo, Dolly, Camille, and Grand Duchess Sable perform (see Friday listing for details).
- Bruckner Symphony #8:** music, Roxie Theater, 3117 16th St., S.F., 1 PM, free. A film of Eugen Jochum conducting the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra.
- Dance Marathon:** with Miquel Brown at the Gift Center Pavilion, 888 Brannan St. at 8th, S.F., 9 PM to 4 AM, \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Part of a two-day Gay Freedom Day celebration sponsored by the I-Beam.
- Rodgers and Hart:** musical celebration by the West Valley Light Opera Association, Saratoga Civic Theatre, 13777 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga, 8:30 PM, \$8, including champagne reception.
- Barbara McNair:** music, The Woods, 16881 Armstrong Woods Rd., Guerneville, cover.
- Girth and Mirth:** buffet and champagne, 176 Page St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. Celebrate Gay "Fat" Pride. For more information call the Chubbie Hotline at 861-3664.
- Gay Freedom Picnic:** hosted by Empress Tessie, Lindley Meadow, 30th Ave. at Fulton St., Golden Gate Park, S.F., noon to 4 PM, \$5 advance, \$6 at the picnic. Sponsored by The San Franciscans. Chuckwagon barbecue, beer bust.
- Fatal Positions:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- Midnight Mona:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Emmett: A One Mormon Show:** comedy (see Thursday listing for details).
- Bad Drama:** stage performance, \$9 and \$10 (see Thursday listing for details).
- Psycho-Killer:** stage performance, \$7 (see Thursday day listing for details).
- Last Summer at Bluefish Cove:** stage performance, 5 PM, \$15 and \$18, 9 PM, \$17 and \$20 (see Thursday listing for details).

TUESDAY 26

- West of Broadway:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay at Mason, S.F., 9 and 10:30 PM, \$4. Singing the songs of Jerry Herman.
- Conversations with Pat Bond:** as part of the Gay and Lesbian Pioneers history series, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Bond will reminisce about high school, old movies, being Gay in the '40s and '50s, her stint in the WACS, and life in San Francisco's Gay bars.
- Lisa Pawlak:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.
- Last Summer at Bluefish Cove:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).

WEDNESDAY 27

- John Kass:** dance, Club 181, 181 Eddy St., S.F., 9 PM, cover. Featuring Mario Mondelli, Sable Clown, Danny Williams, Desiree, and Joe Tolbe.
- San Francisco Hiking Club:** meeting, Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 18th and Collingwood, S.F., 7:30 PM. Sign-ups for the forthcoming trip to Barlow Flats at Big Sur June 29 to July 1 will take place. Forthcoming July and August day hikes and camping trips will be discussed. New members welcome.
- Silvia Kohan and Company:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 and 10 PM, \$6. Accompanied by Mary Watkins on keyboards, Mimi Fox on guitar, Bonnie Johnson on drums, and Jan Martinelli on bass.
- Evan Davis:** comedy, Mame's, 389 Bay at Mason, S.F., 9 and 10:30 PM, \$4.
- Bad Drama:** stage performance, (see Thursday listing for details).
- Lady Bianca:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.
- Last Summer at Bluefish Cove:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).

SUNDAY 24

- Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration:** this is it, what you've all been waiting for. Parade begins at Spear and Market Streets, 11 AM. March to Civic Center to a rally with speakers, entertainment, booths, food and beer. Continues 'til you drop.
- All Join Hands:** Gay square dancing, dancers from every club join hands at 4170 Market St., S.F., 5 to 7:30 PM, donation.
- Nob Hill Cinema:** gala 15th anniversary party, 729 Bush St., S.F., 5 PM, free to members, guests and new members \$10. Cocktails, buffet, live entertainment, world premiere feature presentation.
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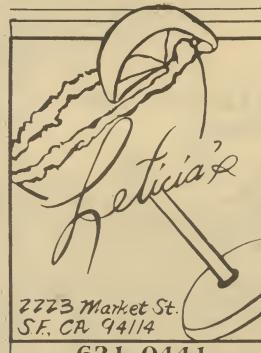
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ABAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

A Conversation with Pat Bond

Star of 'Lorena and Eleanor' and 'Gertie Stein' Gets Down

by Steve Warren

Pat Bond is an upfront Lesbian with a lot behind her.

Most of us met Pat in *Word Is Out*, where her reminiscences of army life provided comic relief, grim though some of the stories were.

"Discovered" through that film after a lifetime of writing and performing, Bond was able to quit her office job and devote all her time to work she enjoys — entertaining, enlightening, and consciousness raising through her one-woman shows *Conversations with Pat Bond* (which she encodes June 26 at the Valencia Rose), *Gertie Gertie Gertie Stein is Back Back Back* and the latest, *Lorena Hickok and Eleanor Roosevelt: A Love Story*.

My conversation with Pat Bond took place in a Mexican restaurant across the street from Theatre Rhinoceros during the premiere engagement of her new show. After the obligatory questions about Pat's life and the show, and some standard political chitchat, we got down to the part we enjoyed most — which may be why Armistead Maupin once called Bond "the missing link between the faggot and the dyke" — the show business dish, including the story of how she was given her first joint by Billie Holiday.

But let's take things in order. Pat Bond was born in Chicago. She joined the army in 1945 to get over a woman who hadn't returned her love. While she still talks a lot about the military phase of her life, it only lasted two years. Take it from one who knows, those can be two long years.

Although no one, least of all the people interviewed for the film, expected *Word Is Out* to get the distribution it got or have the impact it had, when it opened doors for Pat she was ready to walk through them.

"I owe it all to those years of training," she says. "All that training held me up like an iron girdle. That's the only way I was able to get up in a major night-club (The City in San Francisco) and do a show with only three weeks of preparation."

And that's what she's been doing ever since, though refining her act somewhat — the new show took two years to research and put together. "Hold on to your dream," she tells people, having been in her 50s when hers came true. She's 59 now. "Just before *Word Is Out* I remember sitting on the couch in my living room and crying, 'My life is over and I blew it.'"

Though she's never wanted to have a child — "They can all go out and play with razor blades" — Pat is helping her lover raise a 12-year-old son. The boy was fathered by Michael Lynch, a founder of Toronto's *Body Politic*, and has been in the public eye all his life. Bond quotes from a radio interview he gave when he was seven: "Gay people are like everybody else, only nicer. I don't think I'm Gay because I'm not very nice."

Does Pat think Lesbians and Gay men are nicer than the general populace? Of course

not. "Some are shits like everybody else," she says, punctuating it with that explosive Phyllis Diller laugh of hers.

Over the next 30 years Bond got a college degree (drama and English lit) and worked a variety of menial day jobs so she could perform for free at night. She worked with, among others, Actors Workshop, before it went professional, and appeared with Harvey Korman and people like that. (Are there people like that?)

The solo performances Bond gives now are as simple in their presentation as they are complex in the material they deal with. Whether she's speaking as herself or as another famous Lesbian — Gertrude Stein or Lorena Hickok — she leaves her viewers moved, amused, and better informed than they were before.

One of the most moving parts of *Lorena and Eleanor* is Bond's reading from reports "Hick" wrote about starving depression families, especially the children. With the same situations existing today in a country that should better be able to handle them, Pat is still concerned. She may not care to have kids of her own, but "I'm a woman, after all. My old programming goes click click click."

Rather than falling into the heterosexual trap of presenting a woman as if she existed only in relation to her more famous spouse, Pat does justice to Hick as an individual. "She had to be pretty special," Bond explains, "to get that AP job in those days." Not all biographers have dealt as fairly with Hickok, she says, but she alerts us that a new one by Lesbian historian Blanche Cook will be out later this year, and it's going to be the best of the lot.

October 11, 1984, will be the 100th anniversary of the birth of Eleanor Roosevelt. Bond is aware that this will give her play an added timeliness — at least for Gay groups planning alternative celebrations. Officially, she says, a new stamp will honor Mrs. Roosevelt; and more importantly, Val-Kil Cottage, where she lived in her later years, will be declared a national shrine.

"She'll be the first woman to be so honored," Bond waxes enthusiastically. "She deserves it.

"You travel around this country and you see San Francisco isn't the (Gay) mecca that we think it is."

— Pat Bond

Not that she cares — she's dead — but all women deserve it and this will be for all of us."

Helping women, especially Lesbian women, get what they deserve is a major part of what Pat Bond is about. She admits to a personal ambition — "My dream is that Hick would go off-Broadway" — but even that would be just a means to an end:

"They're doing all these Lesbian films now, and it's time for Lesbians to show them which way to go so they don't screw them up the way they did the films about Gay men. I think the stage may be the place to show them."

After a monologue about what incredibly hard work acting in movies is, Pat says she'd love to do more of it. Her dramatic screen debut in *The House of God* was never released.

"It was a five-line part and they might have cut it out anyway," she rationalizes. She doesn't know why, but they flew her to Philadelphia from San Francisco to play the part, even though "there must have been hundreds of women in New York who could have done it." She worked six exhausting, 12- to 14-hour days to shoot her bit as a nurse. Her co-stars were Tim Matheson, Bess Armstrong, Howard Rollins, Jr. and Charles Haid.

To emphasize the physical demands of the work, Bond says Matheson and Armstrong worked out in a gym to keep in shape after their long days on the set, and "had nutritionists advising them."

The hospital story was being filmed in a real hospital which had just closed permanently two weeks before the film crew invaded. One day while Pat was standing around in her nurse's uniform between takes, a little old lady came up to her and said, "My friend Mrs. Zimmerman isn't in Room 314 anymore." The actress tried to explain that it wasn't a real hospital now, but the poor woman looked around at all the people who appeared to be doctors, nurses, and patients and must have thought she'd stepped into the Twilight Zone.

The House of God may have deserved its place in limbo, but Pat is disappointed about its shelving because, "I thought I was going to be the first outfit



She even sort of liked Hitler before the shit hit the fan."

Observing Pat over dinner has given me an idea for another woman she could play. "Can you do a British accent?" I ask.

"Of course. I played Lady Bracknell in (Oscar Wilde's) *The Importance of Being Earnest*."

"You'd make a great Margaret Rutherford."

The suggestion earns me a preview of the show I'm envisioning, as Bond recalls the late actress' comment on learning that her nephew had had a sex change operation: "I feel I have not lost a nephew — I have gained a niece." Aside from its being a great line, she does a good spontaneous impression. With a little work . . .

Pat Bond has been based around San Francisco since leaving the service — "I came here and never left" — but she has no illusions about the city and its Gay community.

"Houston is miles ahead of us politically," she says, going on to list cities and states which offer Gays more legal protection. "You travel around this country and you see San Francisco isn't the mecca that we think it is."

Now that Lorena Hickok and Eleanor Roosevelt: A Love Story has been broken-in here, Pat is traveling around the country again. If off-Broadway beckons, that's fine; if not, she'll have no trouble wherever she goes finding people to love her and the women she loves. ■

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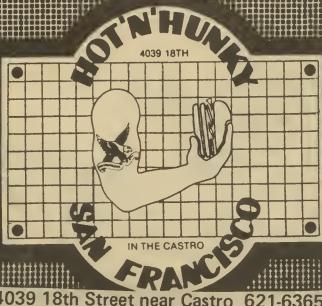
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STAGE

Redgrave Explains 'Sister Mary'

by Bernard Spunberg

One word, one glance, one gesture. That's all it takes, and you know you're watching a star.

Lynn Redgrave is currently leading an ensemble of actors in Christopher Durang's *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You and The Actor's Nightmare* at the Marines' Memorial Theater. The 2 one-act plays are clever. The audience laughs a lot, and Sister Mary conveys frighteningly obsessive fanaticism as well as humor. Ultimately, however, both pieces are slight. But when

minded enough, until we begin to realize the insanity underlying Sister Mary's convictions, Sister Mary quizzes a little boy, and she rewards his correct answers with cookies. Still harmless, if a little odd. Eventually, a group of former students appear. One of them happens to be Gay. Gary Sullavan's characterization captures perfectly the terror of a once-devout Catholic screwing up his nerve to tell his former teacher, a nun, that he's Gay. Gay Catholics hanging on his every word will find much to identify with.

enough in a wacky sort of way, and she winds up terrifying. She has the ability to color the sweetest, most affectionate remarks with horror. Her connection of offhand remarks made early in the play with insane ranting at the end forms an arch that gives Sister Mary the force of a hammer's blow.

The Actor's Nightmare is a pleasant bit of fluff. The central joke about a man forced to perform in a play he's never rehearsed is stretched to the breaking point. Still, the play is funny — especially as performed by



The ensemble gathers in *The Actor's Nightmare*.

Redgrave is on stage, something special happens. She communicates instantly. Never stooping to easy exaggeration or cheap caricature, Redgrave somehow lets us know everything there is to know about a character. Her excellence stems from a blend of faultless technique and sheer genius for characterization — the union of intellect and instinct.

Sister Mary begins with a lecture on Hell, Purgatory, and Heaven. Harmlessly simple-

The students perform an intimate Christmas pageant for Sister Mary, and she is pleased until she realizes their motivation flows from something other than respect. Sister Mary rises from a charming portrait of an eccentric to a bitter, violent climax.

Do you need to be Catholic to appreciate the play? Well, it doesn't hurt. But all that's really necessary is interest in the dynamics of obsession — and responsiveness to brilliant acting. Redgrave starts out nice

this ensemble. Their precision timing extracts every possible laugh. As the hapless actor, Jeff Brooks finds variety in hilariously desperate pleas for help.

As directed by Jerry Zaks, the ensemble is fine. The real reason to see this double-bill, however, is Lynn Redgrave. She is scary, she is funny, she is brilliant from start to finish. She's a star. ■

Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You and The Actor's Nightmare
Marines' Memorial Limited engagement; 771-6900

Seehear!

by Bernard Spunberg

Time dissolves. Words lose meaning. Sensations — enchanting sensations — flood the consciousness. George Coates' performance piece Seehear, recently presented at Herbst Theater, has no story. No words. Nothing but the union of abstract sight and sound. Boring? On paper, maybe. In person, Seehear massages the spirit and the senses with unceasing, kaleidoscopic fantasy.

The music, composed by Paul Dresher, is for thirteen instrumentalists and three singers. It sounds a lot like Phillip Glass, Terry Riley, and Steve Reich — hypnotic nodding subtly altered over long periods. Scenic and lighting designs by Jerome Sirlin, Jeremy Hamm, and Clint Gilbert use the techniques of computer-generated art seen on TV commercials at any hour. Hitomi Ikuma, a mime, is also on hand.

Tough to reduce the quintessentially nonverbal to words,

Seehear is sheer poetic loveliness. Yes, it soothes, but it never bores. Constantly shifting patterns, new imaginative vistas unfold constantly. The mind's memory cassettes are unplugged one by one until we are an unthinking entity. We are absolutely conscious, but we are ab-

claim the latest genius, who's first to see through a fake? Keeping up with the politics of art requires unlimited funds to shuttle between the world's capitals. Personally, I would have gone to New York last week, but I simply had to do my laundry. Besides, none of that political

'Seehear is sheer poetic loveliness . . . It soothes, but never bores!'

solutely cleansed of thought. We are delighted and refreshed.

Seehear is the third part of the How Trilogy, which includes *The Way of How* and *are/are*.

The How Trilogy is part of a recent movement in art which seeks expressive uses for modern technology. New artistic movements are generally fraught with all sorts of self-conscious snobbery — who's stealing ideas from whom, who's first to ac-

stuff really matters. What does matter is the work at hand. Not only is Seehear a delight, but it suggests artistic commitment to speak clearly and directly to audiences, not just to other artists. Post Modernism has moved away from self-conscious art created only for an elite few. Seehear exists within a stylistic context, but not for the sake of that context. It exists to communicate, and it does. Beautifully. ■

CABARET

Willkommen to the Kit Kat Club

by Bob Woolhouse

"Having no talent is not enough," John Wasserman, former entertainment critic for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, once wrote about the Cockettes after a local appearance. In the case of Mona Mandrake, who has brought her three-man show to the Valencia Rose, having no talent is *quite* enough. In fact, it's definitely too much.

Mandrake demonstrates a sterling inability to sing, dance or play the accordian, all of which she attempted during her *Mona At Midnight* show. However, she need not be concerned with such trivialities as talent for two reasons: her drag show is a parody — no, a travesty actually — of every Middle European chanteuse who ever did the back rooms and cellars of Paris, Berlin or Vienna. Here is the caricature of Dietrich, who couldn't sing, dance or play the accordian either. Mona, on this point at least, is breaking even. The other thing in her favor is that she can be quite entertaining, and that's what it's all about, isn't it?

The show was an uphill climb all the way. It started out at ground zero with commentator

Claude Duvall reading what seemed to be the longest short story ever written, which was supposed to illustrate, I think, that Mona is a dingbat. The reading, however, came across like all of the Books of the Old Testament as translated by Dorothy Parker. Once that was out of the way, Mona appeared and proceeded from parody to camp, to outrage, to what the hell is going on here?

With a makeup job that looked as though it had been applied immediately after full frontal plastic surgery by a chiropractor, and draped in a wardrobe of gowns that Adolf Hitler would have loved, Mona did her languid, world weary thing. She mimicked the 1930 allure and tacky glamour of the Continental femme fatale, all the while maintaining the new world androgyny of hairy chest and armpits to match. Truly, Mona is for all ears.

Her repertoire included the standards of European cabaret: Noel Coward's Half Cast Woman, the obligatory La Vie en Rose done in Las Vegas French Provincial dialect; and from The Threepenny Opera,

Pirate Jenny rendered in what might have been either low German or possibly maternity ward labor pains. One number, striking in its originality, was her "Walkyriera" — Wagnerian whooping to the rafters, but with a counterpoint of flamenco dancing choreographed "to the tunes of Bizet," according to the program notes. The resulting cross-cultural mélange was something even the United Nations would not be able to cope with.

Mona Mandrake does have her act together for the most part, but needs to work on timing particularly: entrances, exits, stances and gestures all need defining and tightening. The readings between musical numbers, although providing change of pace, merely stretch things out and give spectators the chance to rattle off to the bathroom in rather noisy fashion. Perhaps a better approach might be musical interludes of Noel Coward, Kurt Weil and even Harold Arlen melodies by Mona's talented musical director, Bill Severson at the piano.

Oh well, *toujours gai*, Frauline Mona. Hang in there. Some day you too may do the Tonight



(Photo: R. Puzani)

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Meanwhile, don't get sidetracked by talent. Stay with the glitz. ■

Midnight Mona
Valencia Rose
Through July 1; 863-3863

STAGE

Rock Recipe

by Bernard Spunberg

Reipe: Select one deathless legend. Add a liberal handful of classic pop tunes. Stir in witty sets and energetic performances. Result? *Tristan*, a musical written, directed, and produced by Jack Essex, based on the story of Tristan and Iseult. The show, currently on stage at USF, is fast-paced, charming — sometimes it's even buoyant. But despite the surefire ingredients, *Tristan* doesn't quite thrill, never quite raises the goosebumps it should. Why not?

After all the singing, dancing, and funny visual touches, there is no drama if we can't believe in the central lovers' passion. The *Tristan* legend is simple in outline and vast in implication. Essentially, King Marc sends his loving nephew, Tristan, to a neighboring kingdom to bring back Iseult, whom Marc wants to marry. Tristan and Iseult drink a love potion, and the seeds of tragedy are sown. Eventually, conflicting responsibilities, loyalties, and passions drive *Tristan* and Iseult to early graves.

Essex embellishes the medieval setting with sounds and symbols of '50s pop culture. Good idea. The songs he has chosen, classics like "Love Potion Number Nine," "You Don't Have to Say You Love Me," and "Who Wrote the Book of Love?" have long since proven their durability. But how well does their style fit into a medieval context? Well, it's a little weird, but because the performers sell the songs with a flair that is mirrored in the settings, and most of all because the songs actually comment on — and sometimes even advance — the drama, it works. Bruce Henderson's witty settings are an equal blend of medieval fantasy and '50s kitsch. Heraldic shields decorated with cherry automotive symbols line the stage, and whimsical touches, like a little reading light under the canopy of King Marc's throne, abound.

Musical Director Scott Singer is loaded with talent. Now all he needs to do is learn to control it. Singer seems unable to resist providing twice as much music as necessary. If one simple chord is needed, Singer plays two. If stormy sound effects are called for, Singer makes noise worthy of a Steven Spielberg extravaganza.

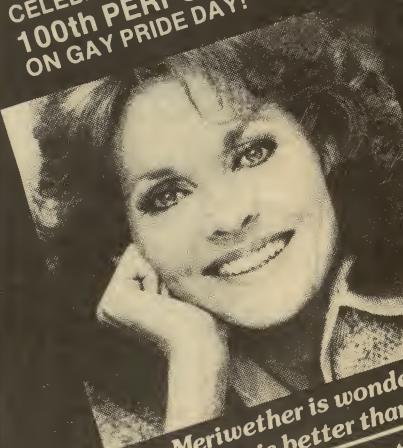
Choreographer Edward Blair also hits just the right stylistic mark. Some of his routines suggest hackneyed cliché rather than inspiration within the conventions of a style; still, his work is efficient and professional-looking. Some of it does leave the performers a little breathless.

As *Tristan* and Iseult, Christopher Strand and Maureen McKenna are a problem. Individually, they're wonderful. McKenna belts "You Don't Own Me" with thrilling emotional conviction and full, controlled sound. She also conveys the element of dignity, the sense of noble stature, that belong to a legendary figure. Strand is a cute little hunk, if a little on the squeaky-clean side. His performance of "Heartbreak Chateau" (taken from "Heartbreak Hotel") has infectious, sexy energy, and his interpretation of "Since I Don't Have You" is also strong — but nothing more. Strand is talented, but his characterization is that of a chorus boy, not a leading man. He never quite generates belief that he is a mythic figure. His relationship with his Iseult is likewise unbelievable. McKenna, too, seems distant from her *Tristan*. Oh, they like each other all right, but a staging of the *Tristan* and Iseult legend needs actors willing and able to act out a superhuman sexual attraction.

Essex's production of *Tristan* is pleasant. There's lots of lively singing and dancing. Lots of laughs, too. But without a sense of size and scope, the tragic story is trivialized. We leave this production charmed, but unmoved.

Tristan
Gill Theater
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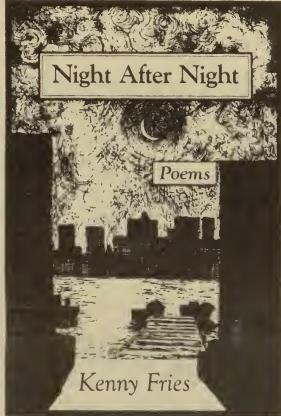
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TALES OF TESSI TURA

War of the Fledermice

GEORGE HEYMONT

Too often, I wonder if attending yet another performance of Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* is a bit like boning up for monogamy. One has to work hard to keep things fresh. And, although this particular operetta gets mounted on a regular basis throughout the year, one rarely experiences an evening which bears the sparkle, wit, and sexuality that accompanies a truly great lay.

A recent trip to Los Angeles, however, offered a tantalizing opportunity to see two performances of *Die Fledermaus* back-to-back. The matinee was performed in English, the evening in German. The performances promised distinctly different production styles from two opera companies of diametrically opposed philosophies. One, the Vienna Volksoper, is world-renowned for its treatment of Viennese operetta. The other, Los Angeles Opera Theatre, is a fledgling American grass-roots company dedicated to ensemble work currently celebrating its fifth anniversary. The comparisons were fascinating.

SCHTICK IT TO ME

Despite all the hoopla surrounding the American tour of the Vienna Volksoper, I was disappointed by what I saw happening on the stage of Pasadena's Civic Auditorium. The cast members had obviously worked together many times, polishing their performances

women without sufficient motivation. Eisenstein's English-language ad-lib upon entering Orlofsky's party ("Where's the beef?") was gratuitous at best.

Despite Peter Minich's animated Eisenstein, Sigrid Marthikke's matronly Rosalinda, Robert Granzer's bulbous



"You think Terry, he may wanna me back?" Renata Scotto waits for a phone call about the 1985 season.

over what could be considered a long run. But, just as the cherished D'Oyly Carte died of terminal arthritis, the Volksoper appeared frighteningly dependent on intravenous injections of schmaltz.

Not that I have any objections to a heavy fix of prime Viennese schlag — when it is fresh. But less-than-fresh cream quickly tends to lose its magic. Old traditions soon become grim indulgences as self-satisfied principals took every opportunity to step out of character and steal a bow. Orlofsky's ball was interrupted several times: once to bring fading Hollywood celebrities (Martha Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stack, and some local bigwigs) onstage, and again for ballets performed to Strauss' "Thunder and Lightning Polka" and "The Blue Danube Waltz." The corps was strong. The music was lovely. The effect was indeterminable.

This *Fledermaus*, which is one of the Volksoper's calling cards, was performed with the slickness of a touring production of *My Fair Lady*. In short, there was plenty of panache but little singing of note. Artists barked and crooned. Some principals sounded tired, strained, and even below Broadway standards. The male leads were all portrayed as dirty old men; the

Franke, and Melanie Holliday's scrappy Adele, the Volksoper's *Die Fledermaus* turned out to be a rather tepid experience. Entertaining? Yes. Satisfying? No.

THE RIGHT STUFF

Often carelessly performed by artists who know their lines too well, *Die Fledermaus* sometimes gets the short end of the stick. In contrast to many such performances, Los Angeles Opera Theatre's production was a model lesson in restoring intimacy and insight to a standard work from the operatic repertoire.

Lesbian Mother's Anthology

A cross-cultural group of Lesbian mothers have decided to collect and edit writings by Lesbian mothers, co-mothers and their children to form an anthology. Using the metaphor of quilt making to talk about their lives, this anthology is an opportunity to allow their voices to be heard, to relieve their isolation as Lesbian mothers, and to dispel the myth that they do not exist.

In addition, it will provide a vehicle for those who do not consider themselves to be writers, or have never been pub-

lished, to allow stories, poems, prayers, rituals, songs, and laments to be nurtured into print.

The group invites ideas, comments, suggestions and submissions, along with requests for information and/or technical and womanly assistance. Submissions will be accepted through December 21. Please send the original, along with one copy of a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Anthology, 1803 Mission St., Box 160, Santa Cruz, CA 95060-5296.

Because the stage of Los Angeles' Wilshire-Ebell Theatre can only accommodate sets which are half the size of the Volksoper's, Miguel Romero designed a production styled with utter simplicity yet glowing with uncommon warmth. Henry Holt's conducting was solid, loving, and true; Hans Neugebauer's direction exquisitely detailed. I felt as if I had just discovered the inner workings of Strauss' operetta and, believe me, I've seen some performances of *Die Fledermaus* I wish I could forget.

This one, however, was remarkably fresh — filled with so much motivation the principals seemed to be discovering their lovers' infidelities for the very first time. Ellen Shadé's Rosalinda was deliciously feminine, stunningly introspective and exceptionally musical. Charles Roe's solidly sung yet vainly preening Eisenstein was the essence of macho stupidity. Scott Reeve's Falke was meticulously focused on his sweet revenge, while Joan Zajac's spirited Adele glowed with life. Lisa Turetsky's Prince Orlofsky was, quite simply, the best I have ever seen.

As you can guess, I usually don't get too excited at the thought of experiencing another *Fledermaus*. Such an outing is a ritual part of the critical turf and, like many performances of *Tosca*, *Carmen* and *La Bohème*, one which too easily becomes routine. Well, so much for jaded critics! I'm tossing my hat in the air and turning cartwheels over LAOT's *Die Fledermaus* — an excellent ensemble production which made me see and feel the magic of Strauss' operetta like never before.

In past columns I've stressed the high standards of Los Angeles Opera Theatre's work, which often outclasses the arthritic performances and overblown productions presented by the San Diego and San Francisco Operas. LAOT's next venture is an English-language production of *Der Rosenkavalier*, guided by the same team that masterminded this charming presentation of *Die Fledermaus*. Under the loving care of director Hans Neugebauer, conductor Henry Holt, and producer Johanna Dordick, the cast will include Winifred Faix-Brown as the Marschallin, Kathryn Gamberoni as Sophie, Eric Garrett as Baron Ochs, and Susan Quittmeyer singing her first Octavian.

Performance dates are October 13, 16, 18, and 20. If you're smart and care about good opera, you'll make it your business to be there.

GUANO

Why Back in Grace?

DIANNE GREGORY

When my companion and I arrived at the top of Nob Hill the fog that had settled over the city enveloped us in great swirls. A newly renovated cable car clanged its bells on its way back down the hill. It was so San Francisco I could hardly stand it.

I rarely venture up to such rarified atmospheres — preferring the nitty gritty of the Mission and the Haight — but I was a woman with a mission. Below the vaulted ceilings of the Grace Cathedral a momentous event was about to occur: the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, and the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band were back in Grace after a three-year absence.

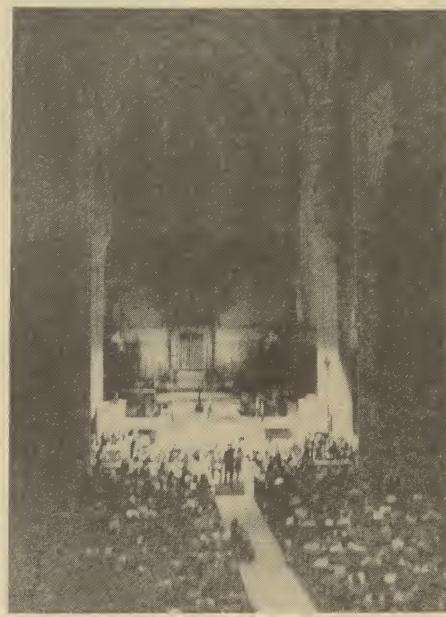
Because we got there about a half hour early my companion and I decided to stroll around the haute-everything neighborhood and ended up in a bar in the Fairmont Hotel where an aging Asian male was blinking myopically at a TV screen on which the Giants were meeting their fate. I don't think this was the place for us. When I ventured into the lobby in search of a rest room in what I thought was entirely appropriate attire — black leather jacket, red tennis shoes, blue striped funeral director's pants and lavender sweater — I could hear the whispering ebb and flow in my wake. Baby, if the high church touristas couldn't take me, imagine their reaction to the Charles Pierce crowd. We left.

We went back to Grace where the gathered minions were filing inside in anticipation of the night's festivities. Men in full leather mingled with those in their tuxedoed best and others dressed more casually. The women sprinkled around the audience chatted amiably with their compatriots in hushed tones. This, after all, was church.

And what a church it is! Reminiscent of the great English cathedrals Salisbury and Winchester, Grace boasts the highest ceilings I have walked under in some time. It's gray-stoned fly-

ing buttresses support walls adorned with pre-renaissance type murals — you know, the kind with gold leaf backing and kodachrome color portraits depicting historic events. The place literally screams — CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

Cathedrals such as Grace provide visually idyllic settings for inspirational choral concerts



Grace Cathedral. The sanctuary provided an idyllic setting for the mingling of choruses and melding of sounds. (Photo: Rink)

such as Back in Grace, but make for acoustic nightmares. When organist John Renke played Bach's Toccata and Fuge in D Minor, a wonderfully baroque Draculorian epic, the rafters rang with the sounds emanating from the organ's pipes. When the Lesbian/Gay Chorus sang "One" from A Chorus Line, the blending of male and female voices sounded like a fuzzy record. The Gay Men's Chorus fared a little better, having more voice power behind it, but when the choruses

said, "Makes you feel almost patriotic, don't it?"

As the choruses gave us one more rendition of "I am What I am" from La Cage aux Folles for their closing number, a woman rocked and soothed the infant in her arms as she stood in the far right aisle. A more fitting tribute to the song some have called the "Gay national anthem" could not have been made. Diversity, after all, is what it's all about.

POP MUSIC

Berkeley Symphony Does Zappa

PETER KEANE

Frank Zappa's performances in conjunction with the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra last weekend were indeed as billed: a multi-media event. Possibly a little too multi for my taste because the busyness of the puppets, dancers, and props did not seem to adequately enhance the music being presented. Rather, the stage business (busyness?) detracted from Zappa's modern orchestral work.

Remember The Mothers of Invention? They were wild, they were freaky, and there wasn't anything too smarmy or outré they wouldn't commit to vinyl. The only thing that kept The Mothers from complete self-indulgence was Zappa's brilliant sense of humor and his "legitimate" musical credentials. Here was a guy, it is said, who listened to Edgard Varese as a child. Possibly read Nietzsche for laughs, too.

Zappa's rock music never had much commercial impact, ex-

cept for the ubiquitous "Valley Girl." At least the song gave him the bankroll necessary to pursue what seems to be his true love: modern classical composing. Gone forever are the likes of "Calling Any Vegetable," "Brown Shoes Don't Make It," and the legendary "Suzy Creamcheese." The humor of that music has been put into an orchestral context.

The music performed at Zell erbach last weekend came from a recording made last year titled London Symphony Orchestra, Zappa, Vol. I. I highly recommend the album, even to rock fans, because the music is fueled by the same dynamic he did start out as a rock guitarist, after all. The album has enough scope, beauty, formal structure, and exotic instruments to keep even the most listless neophyte's attention. I'd love to hear it performed at Davies Hall in a straightforward presentation.

and the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band combined for the last segment of the show, the band nearly drowned out the voices of the chorus.

Nevertheless, there were some inspirational moments in the concert. One of my favorites was the Gay Men's Chorus' rendition of "Gloria Tibi" from Mass by Leonard Bernstein. The stark modernism of the piece was beautifully wrought, and the nuances of the song were mercifully not lost this time somewhere between the altar and the ceiling. Another moment of inspiration came when the combined choruses and the band played "America the Beautiful." As my companion

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A Day-by-Day Look at the International Film Fest

An exclusive interview with Jean Genet, two films about Lesbian and Gay oppression in South America, and a comedy about an Australian public health doctor highlight this weekend's climax to the Eighth San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. The festival runs through Sunday at the Castro and Roxie Theaters. On Friday night, the Trocadero Transfer is hosting the third annual San Francisco Gay Video Festival in conjunction with the film series.

Bay Area Reporter film critics Steve Warren and Ellis Morgan will focus on the highlights of the film fest. Here are brief capsules of all the films scheduled.

FRIDAY

JEAN GENET
(France, 1983)
U.S. Premiere
Roxie, 6 p.m.

Never before this day had Jean Genet accepted a camera interview of even one minute. So it is an event to see him for the first time talking freely of his love for the darkness of prisons and for the light of Greece, of Alberto Giacometti — the only one he admires — of his commitments to the Black Panthers, to the Palestinians, and to his

vocation as a writer. Plus, *Un Chant D'Amour* (1952).

VIDEO FESTIVAL
Trocadero Transfer, 7 p.m.

Now in its third year, The San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Video Festival 1984 will offer videos from independent Gay producers across the country, and a surprise entry from Australia. Comedy, art, social documentary, drama, erotica, and a sizable turnout from Lesbian producers are featured.



A scene from *Asa Branca*.

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THE DOZENS
(United States, 1984)
Roxie, 8 p.m.

This film, which raises questions about the problems and responsibilities working women face, replaces *Amor Maldito* in the film festival lineup.

It's about Sally, a young woman who talks like a street-smart young man. The film is an unsentimental indictment of a society which neglects its working-class women, a film about surviving. It's about working-class life, sex roles, families, and what used to be called the System.

ASA BRANCA - A BRAZILIAN DREAM
(Brazil, 1982)
U.S. Premiere
Roxie, 8 p.m.

In *Asa Branca*, director Djalma Limongi Batista explores repressed homosexuality in Brazil's most popular sport, soccer. By tracing the private life of a Gay soccer star (*Asa Branca*), Batista reveals the homoerotic side of the men who idolize star athletes in Brazil.

MANEATERS
(United States, 1984)
San Francisco Premiere
Roxie, Midnight

Continuing the legend of Falconhead, director Michael Zen returns once again to the man-eating mirror that devours the bodies and souls of young narcissistic men. What could have been a routine porno film, however, is actually a highly stylized and beautifully photographed work of eroticism that avoids the clichés and slipshod technical values of some Gay adult films.

SATURDAY

DRESSED IN BLUE
(Spain, 1983)
West Coast Premiere
Roxie, 6 p.m.

Dressed in Blue (*Vestida de Azul*) is a look at six transvestites/transsexuals who work as female impersonators and prostitutes. Director/writer Antonio Gimenez Rico (*Love and Death*) and cinematographer Teo Escamilla (*Carmen, Criada*) have created intimate portraits of six determined, colorful characters living in a country just discovering Gay liberation.

a time when our lives were universally portrayed in film as tragic, remain a unique affirmation of the pleasure and joy Gay people take in their lives. The presentation includes *Always on Sunday*, *What Really Happened to Baby Jane*, and *Roman Springs on Mrs. Stone*.

STAND BY
(United States, 1984)
Roxie, 10 p.m.

Dedicated to several snapshots of the filmmaker's father, *Stand By* combines shots of six entertaining male visitors, beautiful men and music by *Snakefinger*.

PLEASURE BEACH
(United States, 1983)
Roxie, Midnight

Pleasure Beach is an X-rated beach romp starring Michael Christopher and Johnny Dawes as two lifeguards, one Gay and one straight — or is he? High acting ability from the cast and a surprising sense of humor make the film an unconventional entry in the genre of all-male Sex films.

SUNDAY

THE CLINIC
(Australia, 1982)
Roxie, 8 p.m.

Set in a Sydney VD clinic, this hilarious comedy presents the day in the life of a Gay doctor who works at the clinic. In addition to a steady stream of patients with an array of problems, he must cope with his new assistant, a young homophobic medical student. Director David Stevens (*A Town Like Alice*) approaches this ticklish subject with honesty, sensitivity, and humor.

The screening of *The Clinic* will benefit the AIDS Fund, a San Francisco-based organization which directly assists those with AIDS.

MIRROR, MIRROR
(Denmark, 1978)
West Coast Premiere
Roxie, 10 p.m.

Edward Fleming mixes pure comedy with melancholy in his depiction of a group of middle class transvestites. There's no sensationalism in the film, but instead a subtle empathy with a minority's daily lives, loves, disappointments, boasts, and unmaskings, which everyone can recognize and laugh at.

(Continued on next page)

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Boscomolina and Vladimir in *Silencio*.

FILM

The Clinic

Comedy Venerealief

The Clinic is a cross between an educational film about sexually transmitted diseases and an attempt to revive the "Carry On" series (*Carry On Dripping?*). Considering how much information it tries to dispense while maintaining a nonjudgmental attitude, it succeeds surprisingly well.

Melbourne, Australia, is the setting, but the stories are the same in any big city. Dozens of patients represent all types, from nervous near-virgins and an almost-faithful fiance to the professionals and clientele regular enough to know the doctors personally.

The script is necessarily contrived to work in all the desired elements. A naive medical student is uptight about working with prostitutes and "poofers" (us), but he goes to the beach and returns as a new and incredible — in the negative sense — person. He's startled to find out that one of the clinic's leading doctors (Chris Haywood) is Gay, and he ultimately realizes how much he has to learn and how little of it can be found in textbooks.

The student sets up some of the best lines. When he expresses concern about Gay males having the highest incidence of syphilis, he's told, "I suggest you become a Lesbian — they've got the lowest rate of all." A prostitute, gagging on a tongue depressor, says, "If dicks looked like that, I wouldn't be

in the business!"

While it was made before AIDS became a household word, The Clinic is sufficiently timely to include a reassuring segment about herpes. The most prevalent diseases they deal with are guilt and ignorance, not only among their patients but also those people's families and employers. As one doctor puts it, "We're here to see that they enjoy fucking."

The clinic treats young and old, rich and poor, promiscuous and novice, Gay, non-Gay, transsexual, the seriously ill and the hypochondriac.

One of the leading Gay characters (Geoff Parry) complains, "I've got this terrible problem with my lover — I haven't got one." He considers bisexuality briefly, but is up to his old tricks by film's end.

Screenwriter Greg Millin worked in a similar clinic for three years, but could have gathered as much material by being treated at one a few times. Director David Stevens, who wrote the screenplay for Breaker Morant, doesn't keep the pace frantic enough in spots, but deserves credit for a probable first in mainstream filmmaking — more male frontal nudity than female (but nothing to get excited about).

The Clinic isn't a great movie, but it strikes a good balance between education and entertainment, and may help some people get over their fear of those important regular checkups.

(Sun., June 24, 8 p.m., Roxie) S. Warren

BOOK RACK

Whodunnit?

Slate
by Nathan Aldyne (Dennis Schultz,
Michael McDowell)
Villard Books; \$12.95

by Brian Jones

We had to review this mystery novel, of course. The cold corpse lying in bed is that of a columnist for the *B.A.R.* — Boston Area Reporter, that is. Much of the action takes place at the paper's run-down office, and the clue for which our hero and heroine are searching is the missing last column of the late great gossip writer.

You'll remember who the duo who star in this story is if you're a Gay mystery buff. Dan Valentine and his straight friend Clarisse Lovelace, first teamed in *Vermilion* and last seen at Provincetown in *Cobalt*, are on the trail of a puzzler once again. These pulp mysteries have been quite popular, sort of the Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple of the homo set; and if you liked the first two, momentum alone will carry you well into *Slate*.

It would have to be momentum. The first third of the book drags. We don't have a crime until the end of chapter six. That would be okay if there were sufficient ill boding of evil yet to come to maintain our interest. It doesn't happen. Instead, the author relies on our affection for, and familiarity with, the star duo of Valentine and Lovelace to carry us into the plot.

The authors also depend, in the first third of the book, on flash — style. And there are some fine characterizations here. We find ourselves developing a clear picture, and some empathy for, the lineup of off-the-wall characters who play out this mystery. This is a sensual-

ly written novel: evocative of the reader's senses of sight, sound, taste, touch, and smell. Somebody said once that good writing is heard, through a little speaker in the brain, rather than seen. We get good visuals in this one.

But at places, the style is too forced — and gets in the way of the story. Some of the dialogue is stilted, and there are too, too many adjectives. Some of the passages recommend the authors for a meeting of Overwriters Anonymous.

But when we near the end of the book, only then are we given the key clue to unraveling this puzzle. I say boo to that. Agatha Christie, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, even the folks who gave us the Hardy Boys and Nancy Drew, play fairer than that. They give us all the elements early on — so that when the knot is tied at the end, we slap our foreheads and say, "Darn! I should have figured that one out!" In *Slate* we couldn't have figured it out — because the key piece to the puzzle isn't put on the table 'til late.

So this is no great mystery. It would, perhaps, be better described as a suspense novel, as a matter of fact. But it is fun — light summer reading, popcorn for the brain. The price, at \$12.95, is not light.

And we feel compelled to mention a misguided and cruel AIDS joke within the pages of *Slate*. There may be something humorous to be said about the epidemic, but I have yet to hear it, and certainly, this gag isn't it. Two points off the top for the authors' insensitivity in poking fun at dying Gay people.

Given the plot-line here, I dish this novel with some trepidation. I wonder, in fact, if this column will ever see ink in the *B.A.R.* Just in case, let me tell you that the carbon copy is filed away in the soxargghhh . . . ■

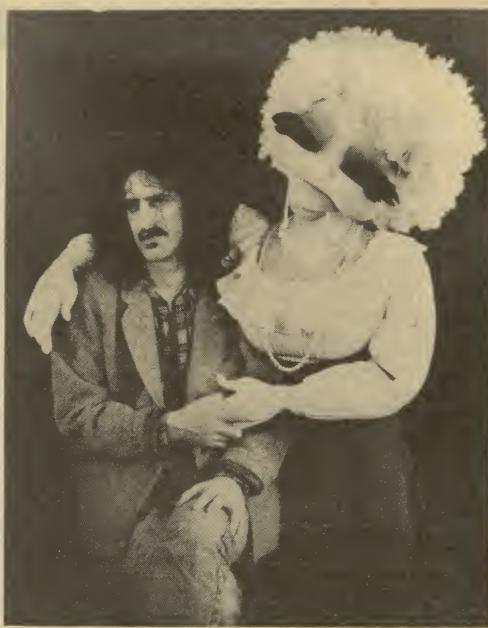
POP MUSIC

(Continued from page 31)

The preponderance of sexist images, despite satirical intent, began to wear thin after a while. Even the big purple and pink cocks, and vulvas made to look like Venus flytraps, started to lose their impact. Or was that the point?

The music itself, superlatively conducted by California native Kent Nagano, was eloquent, engaging, and yes, modern. The Berkeley Symphony acquitted itself admirably, with the addition of a stellar percussion section that included xylophones, Chinese gongs, four tympani, electronic drums, and ersatz wind machines. The orchestration seemed heavy on brass, with only a smattering of strings and woodwinds. I heard echoes of Bartok and Stravinsky — Zappa's much-beloved Varèse influences were minimal, if present at all.

The future of Zappa's orchestral maneuvers looks good. On January 9 no less a luminary than Pierre Boulez conducted the world premiere of three of Zappa's chamber pieces in London. These recordings, along with the most recent examples of Zappa's computer music, will be released later this year on EMI Records.



Frank Zappa with Dolly

Truly an enjoyable HIGH ART event this was, but Zappa still doesn't take himself too seriously. When was the last time you saw a symphonic com-

poser introduce his work on stage wearing blue jeans and orange high tops? ■

P. Keane

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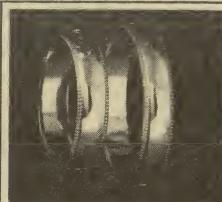
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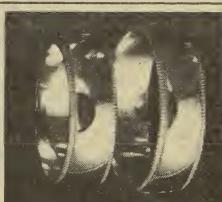
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Ghostbusters*Spooks and Kooks*

Ghostbusters elevates stupidity to an art form, expands the horizons of absurdity to awesome new proportions to make *The Blues Brothers* look like an intellectual exercise. Within those parameters it's kinda fun. Amidst all the other silliness, they might as well have thrown in a rubber chicken and called it *Poultrygeist*.

Thrown out of a university, parapsychologists Bill Murray,



Marshmallow Muck covers Sigourney Weaver and Bill Murray in *Ghostbusters*. Don't ask why.

Dan Aykroyd and Harold Ramis set up shop in an abandoned fire station. They catch ghosts with some sort of electronic butterfly net and become overnight sensations.

To help viewers relate to Murray, he's less interested in research than in getting laid. Potential layee Sigourney Weaver tells him, "You don't act like a scientist . . . You're more like a game show host." Aykroyd and Ramis serve as his foils. They must have thought he was funny enough to need two — pardon the expression — straight men, because they

wrote the script.

Weaver and nerdy neighbor Rick Moranis are they keys to a plot by some bad Samaritan spirits to come back and take over the world, or destroy it, or something. With the fate of humankind hanging in the balance, I won't give away the ending; but if you want a sequel — no problem. *The Ghostbusters* can come back, from one side or the other.

The ghost effects are good; some other technical work is sloppy, including the integration of an album's-worth of song fragments. The cast does what's required of them, with Weaver pretending she's not too good for the part, and Ramis looking like he should be funny but not having a chance to prove it. Aykroyd may as well be invisible for all he contributes, and Murray makes me laugh for reasons I can't explain, with lines like "Back off, man, I'm a scientist."

Beam me up, Scotty. If a critic can enjoy *Ghostbusters*, there's surely no intelligent life on this planet. ■

(Northpoint) S. Warren

Beat Street/Breakin'*At the Hip-Hop*

Breakin' is going to be more important than Trekkies to the movies of 1984 and beyond; so I took a crash course last weekend, catching up with *Breakin'* and *Beat Street*, the first two commercial films to deal with the "hip-hop" scene. (*Wild Style* was made about two years earlier by independents.)

It was an eye-opener, something like the Breakdance Olympics, with moves most medalists of both the Gay and



Hip-Hop, Hype and Hope are major factors in the lives of Adolfo "Shabba-Doo" Quinones (l.) and Michael "Boogaloo Shrimp" Chambers in *Breakin'*.

non-Gay Games could never hope to duplicate.

Breakin', like *Wild Style*, deals with ghetto mentality that uses pride to conceal insecurity. (Sound like anyone you know?) In a sanitized version of the Los Angeles slums, we are shown, breakdancing is used to release both hostility and sexual tension. Ambitious young Kelly (Lucinda Dickey) is introduced to street dancers Ozone (Adolfo "Shabba-Doo" Quinones) and Turbo (Michael "Boogaloo Shrimp" Chambers) by a Gay man in her dance class.

"I promise you these guys aren't gonna want you for your body," he says, leading us to expect more like him.

Well, Ozone wants Kelly, but he never does anything about it except sulk and act jealous when her honky agent is around. Turbo seems to resent Kelly taking Ozone away from him. But that's all unspoken, the real conflict coming from Kelly joining the act and trying to convince Ozone to go commercial with it.

(Continued on next page)

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FILM CLIPS

(Continued from previous page)

For a simplistic exploitation film that rarely allows three minutes to pass between dance numbers, *Breakin'* manages to probe quite a few nerves on the way to its fairytale ending.

Beat Street is more complex and varied, but ultimately more downbeat. Its South Bronx setting looks more like the real thing, and most of the inhabitants are more eager to move uptown. An optimistic message is buried in a song in the finale: "They tried to break us and now we're the breakers." A more obvious moral of both films is that hip-hop is healthy because dance wars have replaced gang wars.

Guy Davis, son of Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, makes a bland leading man. He's a rapper/d.j. whose little brother (Robert Taylor) dances. Their friend Ramon, by charismatic Jon Chardiet, is a graffiti artist who lives to spray-paint. Joining their circle is Rae Dawn Chong as a bourgeois Black City College student who becomes Guy's gal.

With a variety of music and dance, and equal time given to the rap and graffiti elements of hip-hop, *Beat Street* doesn't rush from one dance

REVIEW BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

segment to another; but the two major sequences top anything in *Breakin'*.

To tell you the truth, I was expecting something on the order of *Don't Knock the Rock* and *Twist Around the Clock*, but neither *Breakin'* nor *Beat Street* is on that level. Both have good production values and attempt to explore, rather than just exploit, a new social phenomenon. ■

(at local theaters) S. Warren

Rhinestone

Porky's, Too

Can you imagine a movie where Sylvester Stallone is likable? Can you imagine a movie where Stallone steals the picture from Dolly Parton? Not that the coarsely funny *Rhinestone*, directed by Bob (Porky's) Clark, leaves much to the imagination.

Dolly Parton is a country singer (natch) who's locked into a long-term-with-no-future contract with sleazeball promoter, nightclub owner Ron Leibman. She makes a bet with him that she can find an average guy off the street and make him into a better singer than any of the losers he finds

for his club.

Enter Sylvester Stallone, a tough, abrasive New York cabbie. Finally, Dolly has met someone with a bigger chest than she!

Surprisingly, Stallone seems to have a previously unseen flair for comedy, and he steals much of the film with his hamming, New York sarcasm, and yes, his ability to sell a song.

Much, of course, is totally predictable. You know, first they fight, then they get along, then they fall in love, then they fight, then he comes back a winner, then they kiss, make up, and sing a rousing song over the end credits.

The direction is from the Blatant Sledgehammer School of Drive-In Movie making that Bob Clark perfected so nauseatingly well in *Porky's*, but this is a down-home film, so it doesn't really matter.

Rhinestone starts slow and unfunny but builds a healthy momentum so that by midstream it becomes enjoyable in the yuk-yuk tradition of "Hee Haw." ■

(Galaxy) M. Lasky



Sylvester Stallone (l.) and Dolly Parton in *Rhinestone*.

One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

by Michael Benzry

Thursday, June 21: (Strand) Fortune in Men's Eyes. Young man in prison for minor charge becomes caught in a web of sexual slavery. Cruising. A cop investigates violent S&M murders of Gays by cruising. Could have been good but is just the same old, tired stereotypes we've all seen since day one.

Thursday-Saturday, June 21-23: (Cedar) Entertaining Mr. Sloan. Boarder monopolizes the sex lives of his landlady and her brother. Something for Everyone. Brilliant black comedy starring Michael York as a bisexual who fucks his way to the top.

Friday, June 22: (UC Theatre) Poly-Pervert. Divine falls for Tod Tomorrow (Tab Hunter) in this film about suburbia made with Odorama. Luckily you can't smell the goings on in Pink Flamingos, with Divine grossing out the world. ■

Friday-Thursday, June 22-28: (Red Victorian) The premiere of Recent Sorrows by Jerry Barrish. The lovers of two men — one Gay, one straight — unravel the events leading to the death of one of the men. Unusual film about modern relationships.

Sunday, June 24: (UC Theatre) Two of Jean Cocteau's best, both starring his lover, Jean Marais. Beauty and the Beast is the definitive fairy tale fantasy and is meant for adults. In Orpheus, a poet confronts death in a mystical story derived from the Greek play. ■

BOOK RACK

Lesbians & Incest: Too Much!

Love in the Present Afternoon
by Kathleen Fleming
Naiad Press; \$8.50, paper

by Dianne Gregory

This book is not so much a Lesbian romance novel as it is a book about divorce and dealing with childhood incestuous abuse. Those passages are powerfully written, but the romance tends to get lost in the shuffle in places. What is worse, it never is really believable.

Fleming has three plots going: the breakup of Lynne's marriage; her internal analysis of what her brothers did to her as a child; and her romance with Ruth. Never do the plots cross to weave a pattern, except when Lynne finds out her husband married her because he thought of her as "damaged goods," and in the implication that she prefers women because of what

her brothers did to her.

Lynne (Lynnane in the painful flashbacks to her childhood) is desperately trying to hang on to her marriage to a homophobic latent homosexual. All of a sudden in chapter 10 Ruth appears lying on a beach beside her. Three chapters later this sudden introduction is explained with the fact that they met in a night class. Lynne and Ruth end up together after much tribulation and many trips to an attorney named Nora, but the whole does not quite add up to the sum of its parts. It should have been at least two different books.

Not that the writing was not good. Some of the scenes between Lynnne and Ruth are elec-

tifying, and the flashback passages to Lynnne's childhood are believable and terrifying. Lynnne is a whole and complicated character. It is Ruth who seems to have merely been sketched by Fleming. I'm never sure how she came to love Lynnne, and I don't know what motivated her to take the first step. She is just there.

But if you want to read a riveting account of what it's like to be stalked by your brothers year after year and what it takes to remain a viable person in the face of it, you will not be wasting your time. I wish, however, that Fleming had concentrated on the incest issue without trying to drag a Lesbian relationship into it as well. ■

—

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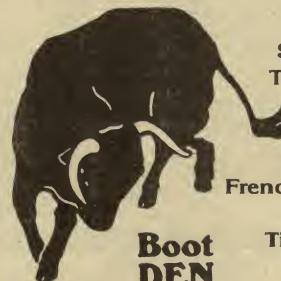
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BAY AREA REPORTER

SPORTS & FITNESS

FITNESS EIGHTIES

DON WEIDEMAN

He is Certainly Fit, But is He Gay?

by Paul Trefzger

Don Weideman and I sat opposite each other in a window booth at the New York Deli. He told me that he was born March 11, 1952, in Milwaukee, and that he was raised in Lake Forest, Illinois (Chicago's North Shore). He said he had played football, baseball, wrestled, and ran track in high school, and that during his last two years at the University of Illinois in Champaign he'd been a Martial Arts Instructor.

I had another sip of coffee and asked, "Did you come out in college?"

He paused. "No."

"When did you then?"

There was another pause. Don smiled. "I didn't."

"You're straight," I said.

"I don't like to label myself," he replied. "I have a girlfriend, but I don't like to call myself 'bi.' I have absolutely no bearing on my dealing with people. I know that I feel comfortable in

a Gay area and that I can't understand homophobia. It's so alien to my nature. Anybody that would criticize me, I wouldn't have any, I would not have much of an opinion of."

Don went on to say that people who "insist they're straight" are the ones who are truly repressed, and he feels they are "Victorian, priggish."

"My relationship now is with a woman, Susie Hawley. We've been living together at 20th and Castro for a couple of years. We like the location. It's always sunny. It's centrally located and Muni Metro's nearby." I asked him if he got flack for living in the Castro.

"When I first moved here some people said, 'Well, in this part of town there's a large Gay population,' as a sort of warning. Well, I don't understand that. Usually, it's a nicer part of town."

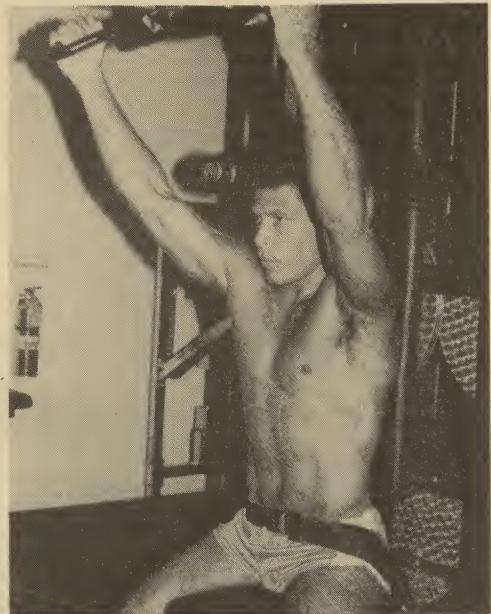
"I've always had a lot of Gay friends and I won't deny that I've had a few experiences. Say, are we going to talk about fitness?"

"Sure," I said.

Don then told me that he jogs, but "I don't believe in jogging too much. I do it as an aerobic exercise. I like to jog in Golden Gate Park. I jog about ten miles a week and that's on days that I don't work out at the gym. I try to swim now and then for a difference in cardiovascular exercise routine, but it's inconvenient because there aren't that many pools around and I don't like salt water."

On diet: "I avoid sugar and caffeine. I eat slow burning carbohydrates; vegetables and fruit, chicken and fish, occasionally red meat. I don't believe in being fanatical about anything. I mean, we're all human beings. I don't take food supplements, no vitamins unless I feel a cold coming on, or if I'm run down. They don't do any good unless you have a good basic diet anyway. I don't smoke. I don't drink. I don't do drugs."

Weideman has been a member of Shape Up since it opened.



Don Weidemann on the machine. (Photo: Rink)

"For a while I was spending about six hours a day there," he said. "I don't have to work. I have interests in a trust. When Burt (Walder) quit, Jim (Shurleff) called me. He knew I'd been talking about doing something. I was going bananas. He asked me if I'd like to be an instructor."

Don came to San Francisco in 1982. In college he hadn't taken part in any competitive sports.

"I was too involved in the social life and trying to maintain my grades." He studied Liberal Arts with a Psychology focus after trying Business Administration, Architecture, and Social Sciences. It's hard to believe he didn't major in Philosophy. The first thing he said to me was, "Life's got to be fun." He also spoke with admiration of people with power and success.

"First, they have the ability to act and to change things that need to be done, rather than be-

ing apathetic and indolent. They are also creative in the way that they relate to the world around them, people around them. Third, successful people are aware of the complexities of the world, the expansion and contraction of things. I guess I'm getting a little esoteric here, but I mean in areas of your life; the ying and yang thing." Then back to "fun."

"I don't believe you have to sacrifice short-term fun for long-term success. It's sort of Zen. You can be serious and responsible without being solemn. Fitness should be fun. You should be eager to get back to the gym."

"I just don't like a scheduled existence. For example, if I go on a vacation, I avoid things like the tours. In working out, I don't believe in working only the upper half of your body like some guys do and neglect the lower half. A complete workout of your entire body is better. The biggest problem with most people starting is that they 'over-train.' They may come in every day. They don't give their body a chance to recover. Then they may actually lose size and think 'Well, I just don't have the body for it.'

"It's a good idea to read about working out." I asked if there was a good basic book. "Nautilus Body Building" by Darden. And then they have a more advanced book for someone who's been at it for over a year.

"You should always change your workout program, your routines. It keeps your body 'off balance.' It helps you adjust to new stresses, new situations. Your body responds better than if you have set routines month in and month out. I alter mine every couple of weeks. Even body builders alter their programs. I don't do a strictly Nautilus routine. I kind of grew up with free weights."

Weideman started using weights in his freshman year in

(Continued on page 38)

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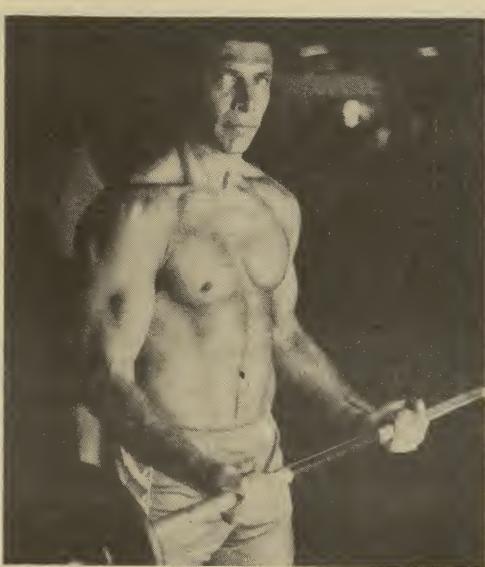
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Don Weideman (Photo: Rink)

SOFTBALL

A Family That Knows How

by George Zepp, Jr.

La Cage aux Folles move over!

That show was challenged last Saturday evening by a stunning premiere of the First Annual Ambush Drag Softball Game. It was the Ambush from the Gay Softball League and the Royal Family from everywhere.

What a bevy of beauties! Outlandish drag and ridiculous talent contributed to one of the most entertaining evenings I've experienced in a long time.

The Ambush was splendid from the moment of their arrival until the game was over. If the Royal Family had been able to have had just half the practice games the Ambush had, there would never have been a final score of 9 to 9. At entrance time, my Ambush favorites were "Odessa" Finton, Bessie Mae Wilson, "Tina" Ford, "Sparkle" Dyell, and "Weasie" Brooks. Actually, the entire team "peed-ed."

My special thanks to all the members of the Royal Family for helping to make such an unforgettable evening. To the dowager Empresses Tessie, Mae, Frieda, Ginger, and Reba, my heartfelt thanks. For our former Emperors Marcus, Bobby Pace, Tattoo Jim, and present Emperor Rich Carle, you were all so very necessary and appreciated. The inspiration to "pull" this one off was in knowing that all segments of the community were going to participate — the GSL, the Community Softball League, the Royal Family, and — more important — our many, many fans from Castro, Folsom, Polk, Haight, and of course the always reliable Tenderloin. There has been "talk" that the Salvation Army store at 26th and Valencia had

COMM. SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RODGER SOTO

Bunkies Blast Hunkies

Tommy Africa's (Yes, Monty) Bunkhouse recaptured the Chapman Division lead with two very important wins. It all started with a 9 to 6 win over Jack's Happy Daze, and on to a smashing victory over the Jordan Division leaders, the Hot 'n' Hunky team. Africa's group was fired up and played its best defense this season. A sparkling outfield, Steve Davis' tight pitching, Africa's classy double plays, and the fantastic fielding and hitting by last year's All Star Pat Wolfe won the day. Pat went 5 for 5 in the final game.

In other games, Everett's guys shot from the cellar in its division to a second place tie with Nap's by achieving two close victories over the Force and Rainbow/Bats. It has been a tough year for Everett's because of many injuries, but at this time it appears recovery is on the way. A handsome rookie, Steve Parrish, blasted two of the longest homeruns of the year, which was complemented by his outstanding fielding. Norm Smith won his own game with great pitching, and then knocking in Steve King and J.D. Roche for three big RBIs. Walt Long's Rockin' Robins team had its best game to date by shattering Nap's 15 to 3. Good fielding and impressive hitting from Ken Casey who went 5 for 5, Arron Jud 4 for 4 and Dan Voucher 3 for 4.

It's hard to believe the CSL season is half over and it's anyone's guess who the 1984 Champs will be. It's a tough league with a lot of talent. ■

A special Saturday night was had by all at the First Annual Ambush drag softball game. The Ambush versus the Royal Family was a show not to believe. A special thanks to Dennis O'Neil and Cliff Wilson, who managed the Ambush team, and to George "Sybil" Zepp, the Community Softball League Commissioner, who somehow managed to put together a most impressive Royal Family team. Their efforts are to be commended by all segments of the community.

CSL SCOREBOARD

Rockin Robin	15	Nap's	3
Bunkhouse	9	Jack's	6
Bunkhouse	15	Hot 'n' Hunky	6
Jack's	2	Cinch	1
Rainbow/Bats	15	Slow Rush	6
Everett's	6	Force	5
Everett's	10	Rainbow/Bats	6
Force	9	Slow Rush	2

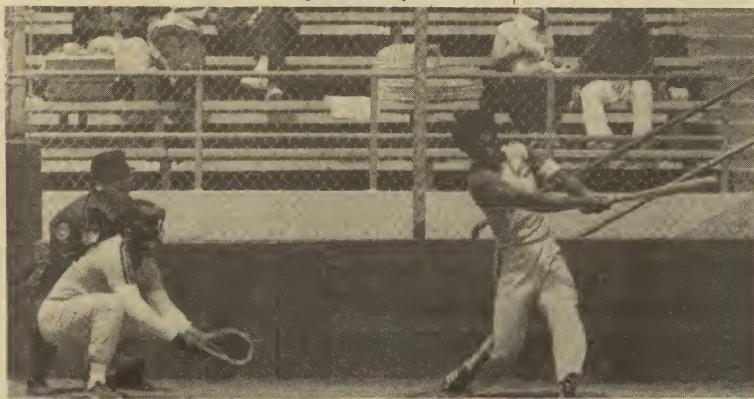
CSL STANDINGS

Julie Jordan Division	
Hot 'n' Hunky	8-2
Everett's SF	4-5
Nap's Peacock	4-5
Jack's Happy Daze	5-5
Slow Rush	4-7

Bill Chapman Division

Bunkhouse	9-3
Cinch	4-5
Force	4-5
Rainbow/Bats	5-5
Rockin Robin	2-6

There is no CSL softball scheduled for the next two weekends (June 24 and July 1) so that our league members can celebrate Gay Freedom Day and Independence Day. ■



What's Missing in This Picture? It's batter-up during Community Softball League action

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SCOREBOARD

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD LEAGUES

TEAM STANDINGS

TG MONDAY LEAGUE

(Week 7 of 23 - as of 6/4/84)
League Average: 695

1. EC Midtown Boys	21	7
2. Grand Central Sta.	21	7
3. Pendulum	18	10
4. New Image	18	10
5. Perfect Petals	18	10
6. Park Bowl	17	11
7. Twin Peaks	17	11
8. Crystal Springs	16	12
9. San Francisco Gym	16	12
10. Pilser Pick-Ups	16	12
11. Momme's Querest	14	14
12. Amazing Six Graces	14	14
13. G. Kelly Drvg Acad	13	15
14. Body Center	13	15
15. Team #14	13	15
16. Doris Day Care Ctr	13	15
17. Renegade	12	16
18. Team #15	10	18
19. Global Travel	10	18
20. Fullsome Five	8	20
21. Men's Room	7	21
22. Team 22	0	28

TG WEDNESDAY LEAGUE

(Week 10 of 24 - as of 6/13/84)
League Average: 740

1. Park Bowl	26	14
2. Cafe San Marcos	25	15
3. Anonymity Reigns	25	15

Bowling scores compiled by Jerry R. De Young.

TGWEDNESDAYNBL

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

Cafe San Marcos First Place Contender

One of the biggest surprises so far this season is the exceptional bowling by the Cafe San Marcos team. While it does not hold any of the league records, like High Team Game (Park Bowl, 998), High Team Average (Play With It, Ltd., 851), or even Most 600+ Series Bowled (Pilsner

also. For instance, Tandy Belew began this season with a 125 average; he now has a 150. Hanalei O'Falia entered with a 112; he now carries a 133. Every CSM team member has either maintained the same entering average or improved; no one's average has dropped. Also, the team average has jumped from 656 on 4/4/84 to 743 on 6/6/84. If bowling of this caliber continues, it may be advisable for the Cafe San Marcos to clear a space for the Tavern Guild Wednesday League Perpetual Trophy.

While on 6/13 there were lots of games in the 190s, only six exceptional bowlers managed to shoot past the 200 mark. These were:

A. Maggio (Pilsner 1)	234
R. Gorecki (CSM)	224
B. Colon (Park Bowl)	214
G. Cassinelli (PWIL)	213
S. Christian (Upntwn Bwl)	213
D. Nyberg (Swt Inprtn)	203

This number of 200+ games is less than half the nightly average — even the best cannot be exceptional all the time. Therefore, you six guys deserve a special thanks for now allowing the *unthinkable* to happen: a 200+ less night.

By the way, if anyone is thinking of joining a bowling league and cannot make up his mind which one to join, the Thursday League could use a few more teams. It is presently composed of five 4-person teams. This is just small enough to permit every bowler a chance to excel, yet large enough to be competitive. Although the Thursday League starts evening bowling one hour later than the Monday or Wednesday leagues, with 4-person teams it finishes at about the same time. Sound interesting? If so, contact Park Bowl (752-2366) for more information. ■

Other members of the Cafe San Marcos team certainly are not allowing Richard to carry the entire burden; they are doing some remarkable bowling

GSL Tourney

(Continued from previous page)

Sunday at 9 a.m. Googie's will provide wake up ceremonies (your guess is as good as mine) and at 11 a.m. the entire Gay Softball League will march in the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day parade. At 3 p.m. the championship game, pitting the winners of Saturday's double elimination play against each other, will be held at Lang Field on the corner of Turk and Gough. An awards presentation will take place at 7 p.m. at The Kokpit. See ya'll there. ■

FITNESS '80s

(Continued from page 36)

college as a means of conditioning.

"One important ingredient in any workout is concentration," he said. "Another is maintaining a high level of intensity; i.e. giving 100% in effort and 100% in concentration and in form. That's the secret of progress and development in free weights, in Nautilus, or in life."

When not in the gym, Don enjoys classic literature.

"Lawrence, Hardy, Hemingway, anything before 1940. I like their style. The most current book I've read was *The French Lieutenant's Woman*, but only because I admire the author. I don't read newspapers or watch the news because I don't like a lot of negative things. I like to keep my mind in a positive frame."

"You don't read the Bay Area Reporter?" I asked.

"Oh, yeah, I read Gay publications. I'm interested in what goes on in the community. I go to the Trocadero and the I-Beam. They're much more fun than your typical heterosexual 'meat market,' pick up places. When I go out, I dance with guys. I dance with anyone. If you do that in a straight place you'll really get a cold stare. Now that's not true if I dance with a girl at a Gay place. My girlfriend and I are card-carrying members of Trocadero."

I asked about his "no drug, no alcohol" policy in light of the "all night long" lifestyle.

"Look, I'm not going to say that if someone offers me a drink or whatever, that I'll always turn them down. But the thing is, this guy I know once said, 'Cocaine (and you could apply this to other drugs or alcohol) takes your worst characteristic and makes it your only characteristic.' But I don't get on anybody's case about drugs. I do think, though, that anyone who finds themselves hung up on drugs should come to the gym. They should start a fitness program and it'll produce a more positive feeling about life and themselves. It's not a coincidence that successful people are involved in fitness programs. Life is more rewarding, your mind works faster, you feel younger, you need less sleep. And, you find that you have the motivation and ability to act — the things that make a person powerful."

"You know, this whole thing about sexual preference. I, personally, don't see it as a criterion in selecting my friends. If that were the case, I wouldn't have any men friends. And I tell my Lesbian and Gay friends that they shouldn't limit themselves either and exclude straights. It has to do with being a well-rounded person and the ability to relate to people. When you get right down to it, it's what's inside a person's heart that counts."

P. Trefzger

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Quotables

by Woolly

"A large spout alongside a smaller spout may indicate a mother whale and her newborn calf."

Margot Patterson Doss
"Whale-Watching for Landlubbers"

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DYKES ON BIKES

A Bigger-Than-Life Image Makes for True Spectacle

by Dianne Gregory

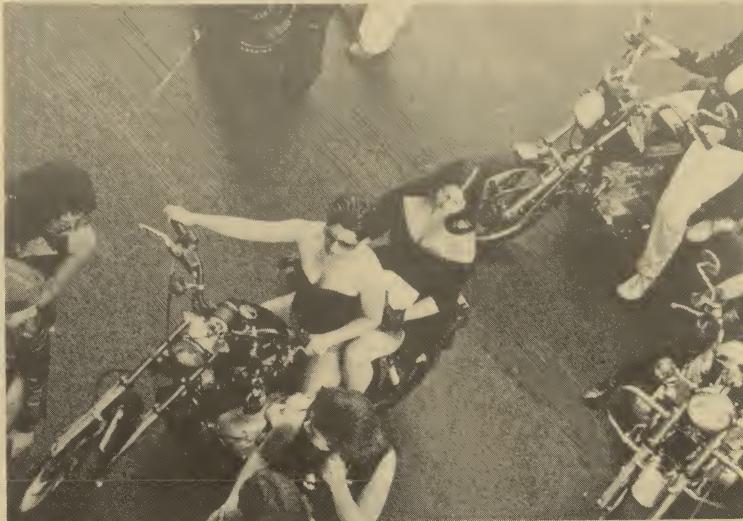
There's nothing like it. The sight and especially the sound of 100 or more motorcycles as the Dykes on Bikes roar up Market Street on Gay Day, flags unfurled, is true spectacle — pageantry at its best. The women riding those motorcycles are as diverse as the bikes underneath them.

They come from around the Bay Area and beyond, dressed in everything from lace camisoles to leather chaps and jackets — and various combinations thereof. They ride Hondas, Yamahas, Kawasakis, BMWs, Triumphs, and Harleys of every size. When you hear the caterwaul of more than a hundred motorcycles rend the morning air on Market Street, you know the fanfare of another San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade has begun.

Who are these women sitting astride the powerful machines that herald the coming festivities? What do they do when they're not launching another Gay Day in San Francisco?

each year and is available for other events by request. McElhinney doesn't rule out riding in mainstream parades in the Bay Area as a mounted unit.

This year also marks the first



Aerial view of part of the Dykes on Bikes contingent in the '83 Parade. (Photo: L. Stiles)



(Photo: Rick)

Ramey Fair and Glenne McElhinney are the co-leaders of the group. They met in 1977 when McElhinney posted a leaflet at the Pacific Center relating her dream of a women's motorcycle club, and Fair came to do the same thing. The two women forged a plan for a Lesbian motorcycle club over a beer, and Dykes on Bikes was born.

The club is now a seasonal organization, so most of its activities take place from May to October. The club organizes riding skills workshops, mechanical workshops, camping trips, and road trips; but it is unfettered from dues or membership fees. There is a "core group" of about 20 members that swells to more than a hundred on Gay Day. The only thing these women have in common is their enthusiasm for motorcycles. Some don't even own one.

This year the club will ride not only in the San Francisco Gay Day parade; many of its members plan to go as a group to the parade in Los Angeles June 31. The Dykes on Bikes were in evidence at Gay Day in Berkeley last Sunday selling buttons and promenading. If you were there you probably saw them rumble through the Castro Street Dog Show June 10. The group hopes to go to at least one other Gay parade besides San Francisco's

time the club has attempted to raise funds from the community. Fair and McElhinney have used their own money in the past for flags, parade entrance fees and insurance, and other expenses. The group tries not to charge for its outings, not wanting to exclude anyone. The club had a benefit at Chaps a few weeks ago that included an Emperor/Empress de Motorcycling contest. Its members will be selling pins and buttons at Gay events this summer, and there are tentative plans for a poster and another fundraiser in the fall. The group is also looking for sponsors. It already has the help of Oakland Honda in the form of space for workshops and the donation of a trailer to ferry the motorcycles to the parade in Los Angeles.

Despite its *laissez faire* attitude towards membership requirements and fees, the club is not at all loose when it comes to safety. All the motorcycles in the Dykes on Bikes contingent on Gay Day must be in good operating condition, and their drivers must be properly licensed. Fair and McElhinney counsel all prospective riders to make sure everyone is riding a safe and mechanically sound bike. Fortunately, nothing catastrophic has happened on any of the club's outings. The main reason the Dykes on Bikes are always the first contingent in the parade

is not just tradition but because if it's not, the motorcycles tend to overheat and break down.

The club's riding skills workshops are also designed to enhance safety on the road. Both Fair and McElhinney got their one and only lesson on driving a motorcycle on the sidewalk in front of the dealership they bought their first bike from.

"I learned to drive (a motorcycle) on the streets of Boston," said Fair. "Women didn't ride motorcycles in those days. I've taught a lot of women how to ride."

Club members learn how to drive a motorcycle safely, how to pass the California motorcycle driving test, how to change the oil and the drive chain on their bikes, and even how to winterize them.

Another aspect of safety on a motorcycle is what your fellow motorists and other bystanders think when they see a group of women on motorcycles. Sometimes the reaction is unpleasant, according to McElhinney and Fair, and they think that may be part of the reason there is sometimes a low turnout for their biking events.

A few years ago the group was out with about 10 or 12 bikes when they came upon Bolinas as the town was having some sort of fair. The men in the crowd began to gather around the women with beer bottles in their hands making insults.

"We managed to escape by the skin of our teeth," said McElhinney. "It was like we were crashing a fraternity party or something. It makes people

think before they ride in a group."

Fair and McElhinney both stressed that their group is non-sectarian. It doesn't matter whether you've got a scooter, a Honda 175, or a Harley 1000, or don't have a motorcycle at all. If you like to ride motorcycles you're welcome. McElhinney started out with a Honda 350 ten years ago, keeps a 175 to teach people how to ride on, and now owns a Honda 550. Fair started out with a Honda 175 in 1969, sold a Yamaha 920 a year and a half ago after an accident on the Bay Bridge, and is now restoring a BMW R-69. She also owns a Honda 400 she plans to ride in the parade.

Nevertheless, the parade this year will see two other women's

(Continued on next page)

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avec RONNETTTE**Ronnettete Goes Skintight****RON BLUESTEIN**

Saturday, June 16, will long be remembered by those who, like Ronnettete, study the history of sexual mores as reflected by the changes in the practice and art of pornography. That evening marked the opening celebration of the first facility in San Francisco (if not the world) to solicit and solace both homosexual and heterosexual men.

The "World Famous Skintight Lounge and Cinema," near the world-famous corner of Market and Seventh, broke a tradition that amounts to a taboo by running its live Love Act and hot women (who pay

nettete kept a constant fly count during the show, and it was not until contestant three, a hot Black man with abdominals to die for, grabbed his member that I saw the first tentative peters poking out of audience pants. Good taste and demure reservation made their welcome exits when contestant four, Sean, a California hunk with just the right amount of maturity, body hair, and straight attitude, made his entrance. I spoke with Sean before the performance; he told me he was "95% straight," and those of you who don't know what that means do not cruise the Tenderloin.

As Sean stripped, cocks blossomed. The three men behind me were suddenly beating the band, so to speak. Even the usually very controlled Mr. Smith turned to me as Sean unzipped and quietly said, "I can't wait." The wait was worth it.



Damien (l.) and Summer (Photo: D. Smith)

the rent by doing six shows a day) upstairs in the Lounge while downstairs on the main stage eight men danced, dipped, and stripped in the Cinema's first "Manhunt Revue." Ronnettete learned something very valuable about nomenclature that night: we are called "Gay" because straight men are so emphatically not!

This epiphany was granted me during the fifth and sixth performances of Damien and Summer's Love Act. Charming children. Summer has dark, American Indian good looks with a little turned-up nose that must have come straight from the British Isles. Damien is light with small, piquant features, tattoos, bad teeth, and the kind of yellow hair that made Yeats write "For Anne Gregory." They married on his birthday, and Summer told me joyfully that she is one month pregnant after four months trying. In an impromptu afternoon interview I was taking notes on a piece of paper supported by C.S. Lewis' *The Allegory of Love*. Damien said, "Oh, I love C.S. Lewis. Have you read *Surprised by Joy*?" Read it? I was suddenly living it! The words of my new daily mantra took on a new meaning as I recited them silently: "I will not judge people by their looks. I will not judge people by their looks. I will not . . ." Oh, but that goyische blond hair of his!

They performed on what looked like an over-sized pool table with flashing colored lights where pool pockets should be. In folding chairs with a perspective usually reserved for porno photographers sat a small audience of men who looked like they had been struck dumb by terror or megadoses of librium.

The emphasis in this Love Act is definitely love. They kiss and kiss and kiss. Summer dances

Mr. Smith, and I, queer as we are, found reservoirs of enthusiasm for this display of joyful union. The rest of the audience, however, had descended into total catatonia. "Thank you, gentlemen," Summer said, applauding them. Reminded that they were alive, they applauded back.

The crowd downstairs needed no reminders. They hooted with banshee delight as one of the women in the audience put a tip on the stage for contestant one, Rich Gold, who got Ronnettete's thanks—if not his money—for keeping his black socks on long after his flaccid but flying phallus had been exposed. They screamed with surprise when, after the opening bars of Also Sprach Zarathustra contestant two made the most manic stage entrance since Bea Lillie levitated in Blithe Spirit; his mania continued as he displayed the first Elvis imitation *avec strip* during which it seemed that his body, like Miss Lillie's, never touched the stage.

But the management of the Cinema will have to learn, if they want to compete successfully with the other live male sex shows in town, that it is turgidness not turning-points, sprays not splints, that the Gay crowd seeks. Ever reportorial, Ron-

Like so many of the 95% straight, Sean's erotic tension centered on his rear-perineum-balls. So did mine, at least when I wasn't getting bursitis trying to see the cowboy behind me who was airing his cock for what I am sure were reasons of health. Not even the surprise appearance of veteran performer John Kass and his hard-on could upstage Sean's act (although Sean's 5% groped a certain percentage of Mr. Kass during the final dance-off). Sean walked off with the \$50 first prize, John with the \$25 second prize.

The evening's events were sort of presided over by Consuela del Rio, a deserving loser of this year's Miss Gay San Francisco contest. (I'm only joking, Consuela dear.) Contestants were complaining about missed music cues and rotten spots, but having once been a performer and not being a theater critic, a successful opening night signifies to this writer an evening in which an actor was not maimed or killed by a stage prop.

The Cinema is taking a step toward advancing sexuality, but it was desperation, not good intentions, that forced the change.

"The girls aren't selling," said the blond woman manager, (Continued on page 42)

Dykes on Bikes

(Continued from previous page)
motorcycle contingents: the Leather and Blue, and the Scooters and Beauties.

"It means that much more color in the parade," said McElhinney.

All things considered, the Dykes on Bikes are not what they might seem when they are

in full cry on Gay Day. McElhinney is an insurance appraiser and Fair works for a bank.

"We have a bigger than life image," said Fair. "The Hell's Angels image prevails, but we have never done anything to justify it. People call us when they want bodyguards."

D. Gregory

BLACK LASHES

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KARL STEWART



Our big weekend is nigh and everyone is polishing the convertible and washing the crinolin.

This evening International Mr. Leather Ron Moore will be receiving at Chaps from about 10 p.m. (or so) as the official kickoff to the weekend. You can also view the incredible macho figures of artist Carl Ferreras. Ferreras has been featured in *The Advocate*, and is currently on tour with his works.

Friday night the Drummer folks will unload a whole truck-

Mullens as Mr. So/W which Riche won just last weekend. If all these men sound tempting, stop by one of the following for tickets, which are going for a mere \$15: the Studstore (960 Folsom), Mr. S. (both locations — the Eagle and 227 Seventh), Headlines (Castro & Polk), the Jaguar (18th St.). Doors open at 8 p.m.; show begins promptly at 9 p.m.

Other parties Saturday night: the Balloon Girls are holed up in the Casa Loma Hotel and



Grand Duchess Sable Clown (l.) with John Kass at the Mr. & Miss Gay San Francisco contest party. (Photo: Rink)

full of hunks when they introduce the regional finalists for the 1984 Mr. Drummer national finals at Chaps about 8 p.m. The party will feature a fashion show by the Studstore's Leathersmith, which will debut the controversial leather wedding dress. The DQL might be interested in this one. Your emcee will be the incomparable manager of that bar, Kym Whittington, with special guest Ron Moore.

Saturday is the big event: the 1984 Mr. Drummer finals will be mounted at Trocadero Transfer and promises to be an even bigger multi-media event than last year. Some of those jetting in for the heat-of-the-meat are: Mr. Pac No/W Ray Woods of Portland (JR's Cell); Mr. New Eng. Jerry Sabourin of Portland Maine (Cycles); Mr. So/E Ken Bergquist of Ft. Lauderdale (Tacky's); Mr. So/Cal John Rush of LA (Grag's Blue Dot); Mr. Appalachian John Phillips winning at Pittsburgh, PA (Trucking Co.); and SF's own Sonny Cline, Mr. No/Cal, taking his title at the Woods. We have the results of the Mr. Midwest Drummer contest held at Man's World in Cleveland. The awesome Rog Thorton will attempt to conquer the city. Stella of the Arena (or perhaps The Eagle or The Mine by now) will be first in line. June 13 saw the Mr. Rocky Mountain Drummer finals in Denver at the Tool Box with prelims in Phoenix at that high tech wonder-Trax. The winner was Eric Johnson, who happens to be great buddies with Ron Moore. The Loading Zone of Houston offers Riche

want you to join them. From about noon Saturday all the way to parade time Sunday, the girls will host a show with both live and lipsync entertainment, food and BYOB/D. The Slumber Party may be easier to bear if you have your own room: reservations — 552-7100.

Also Saturday, Dr. Sanford Kellman and his I-Beam family will cast light on the stage of The Gift Center Pavilion from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m., featuring Miguel Brown singing "So Many Men, So Little Time." Tickets for this one are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. The party continues the next day, Sunday after the parade, with Sylvester. Doors open at 4 p.m. and tix go for \$12 in adv. and \$15 at the door.

Across the street, the Galleria will swing, as Sutter's Mill and producers Rick, Terry M. and Fred B. bring you the entertainment of Scherrie Payne, Magda Dion and Sport. The newly-elected Mr. Drummer '84 will help celebrate Gay Freedom Day too. The price: 12 bucks in advance and 15 at the door.

If you're hungry and want to dance too, the End Up is offering BBQ (chicken or ribs) at \$3. They'll be serving up sound and grub from about 3 p.m.

Char and Randy Johnson are producing a video of this year's event, and will feature it at the Kokpit as soon as Char can move her fancy butt from the parade route. The Kokpit will also offer food during the afternoon.

GAY MUSIC

Lashes' first real encounter



Pectoral Parade. The finalists at the Arena Bare Chest Contest. The winner, Will, at far left, will be immortalized on the Arena Calendar. A star is born! (Photo: R. Pruzan)

with Gay "culture" outside the bars, shortly after moving here, was the first Grace Cathedral concert by the Band and the Gay Men's Chorus. This tradition was re-established last weekend by the board of directors of the GGPB. The concert was dedicated to the band's founder, Jon Sims, who is near the end of a long health battle here in San Francisco. He would have been pleased with the outcome of this year's effort, too. The SF Lesbian and Gay Chorus offered appropriately spiritual music, including "Elijah Rock" and a delicious "Cantique de Jean Racine" by Faure.

The Gay Men's Chorus followed its own schedule of tunes, the highlights of which were "With Catlike Tread" by Gil-

bert and Sullivan and excerpts from Leonard Bernstein's Mass.

The Gay Band, in tux and under the baton of Lesesne Van Antwerp (formerly of LA's Great American Yankee Band), performed the national Emblem March by Bagley, which would have made even John Phillip Sousa smile. The group played Grainger's "Irish Tune from County Derry" beautifully in honor of John. It is one of his favorite songs.

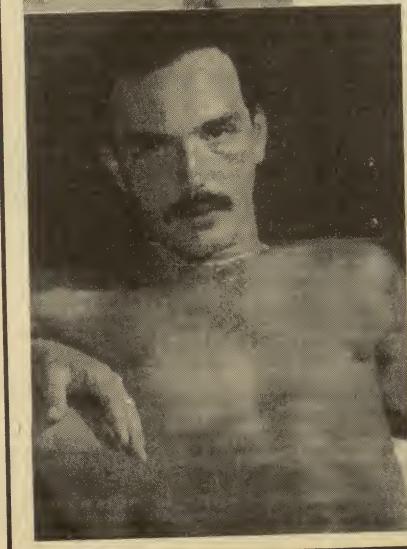
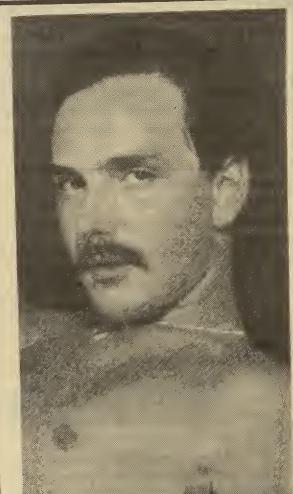
All three groups ended the concert with combined works of "America the Beautiful" and Herman's "I Am What I Am" from La Cage.

After the concert, the gang gathered at Rooney's on 9th at

Market for a celebration typical of performing arts groups. Lots of singing and wildly aggressive socializing. The FLAG Corps, which ushered the event, welcomed Roger back into its fold. Roger and a recently returned Ted Nipe are two of the founding members of the Guard. Perry George, who is the Oscar Wilde of the Gay Men's Chorus, held court as Kimo's Mama Billy joined in the music fest in the next booth. Exec. Travel's Gary, aka Baby June, even joined in the fun at the FLAG Corps corner. Duke Armstrong, the concert's co-ordinator, has lots to smile about, too.

SOUTHERN TAILS

Last weekend the Arena
(Continued on next page)



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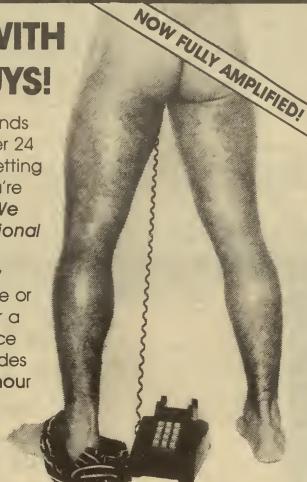
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(Continued from previous page)

hosted a horde of hunks for the Bare Chest Contest, which assures the winner a corner of immortality on the Arena's 1985 calendar. Among the hottest was Buddy, who told a tail of a run-in with Stella and a dildo. Stella says the man has unlimited talents and a size 13 shoe (!!!). We even saw Kym of Chaps get up and submit to double exposure.

This month's first runner-up was firm and furry Andy Zimmerman, and Mr. July is clever and solid Will Tucker, who has just split up with Jim Cvitonich, and was dished merrily from the stage, too. Saw Mark Abramson, the Mr. No/Cal Drummer and Mr. Rush Riv producer.

The First Ladies Union and the MC/UC Prez will host a bash called "A Star Spangled Salute to the 4th of July," at the Eagle, Wednesday, July 4, from 3 to 6 p.m., and will offer food, beer bust and show, all for \$6.

The Coits are offering a package tour of the Reno Rodeo, July 20, 21, 22. The 95 dollar chit includes round trip bus, two nights at the Pioneer Hotel (double occupancy), snacks and cocktails enroute, Sat. evening hosted cocktail party, and all the fun you can dish out. Write: Coits of San Francisco, P.O. Box 513, SF 94101, or call 863-6559 days, 386-7515 evenings.

Celebrate our Gay Freedom from every roof top this weekend and set a vigilant eye to keep watch on it all year 'round.

See ya' in the skins. ■

K. Stewart

Karl's Calendar

Thursday, June 21: Febe's 18th Anniversary, Febe's, 8 p.m. Booze specials, food and fun.

Forum Meeting, Chez Mollet, 8:30 p.m.

Friday, June 22: GSL Turney, Opening Party, Chaps, 7 to 9 p.m. "Sweet Leather Dreams," pre Mr. CMC Open Meeting, Febe's 8 p.m., pre-run meeting.

Jack Frost Birthday, Febe's, 8 p.m. Parkay Victory Party, Men's Room, 8 p.m.

Saturday, June 23: GSL Turney, Phone Booth Breakfast, 8 to 10 a.m., \$3. Double Elimination Kimball Field (Geary & Steiner) 11:30 a.m. Buffet: Rawhide II, 5 p.m.

Pre-Parade Slumber Party, hosts The Balloon Girls, Casa Loma Hotel, noon Sat thru parade time, non-stop entertainment, food. Reservation for room (optional) 552-7100.

Dance Marathon, Gift Center, hosts Dr. Sanford and the I-Beam folks, 9 p.m. to 4 a.m., \$15 adv., \$20 at the door, featuring Mique Brown, DJ Bobby Viteritti.

Sunday, June 24: GSL Turney, Googie's wake up, 9 to 10:30 a.m. End Up Tea Dance and BBQ, food, \$3, 3 p.m.

GSL Turney: Lang Field, 3 p.m. championship game, awards presentation, Kokpit, 7 p.m.

Giant Chili Cook-Off, SF Eagle Patio, Constantines and Cal Eagles beer bust, 5 to 8 p.m., \$6.

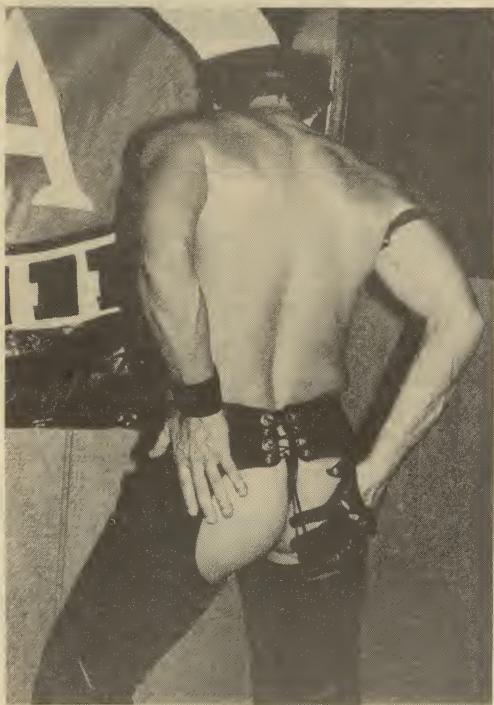
Gift Center Tea Dance, hosts I-Beam, 4 p.m. to midnight, \$12 adv., \$15 at the door; featuring Sylvester. Gay Day Tea Dance, Galleria, hosts: Sutter's Mill, 4 p.m. to midnight, \$12 adv., \$15 at the door; featuring Scherrie Payne.

Trocadero Tea Dance, 4 p.m.

Monday, June 25: Sutter's Showcase, Lee Delaria and Jeanine Strobel, 6 and 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 26: Sutter's Showcase, Danny Williams (also Robin Heller and Pam Allan), 6 and 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 27: John Kass Show, 181 Club, 181 Eddy St., featuring Danny Williams, also with Desiree and Joe Tolte, 9 p.m., door charge ■



Chest, John, Chest. John Kass lets it all hang out at the Bare Chest Contest. (Photo: R. Pruzan)



Sean (c.) won the Manhunt Revue. John Kass (r.) came in second. (Photo: D. Smith)

RONNETTTE

(Continued from page 40)

at the beginning of this article, maybe they will learn that it's gay not to be so straight. Maybe they'll let their hair down and their cocks out. Maybe they'll realize that one can look at another man's erection and survive personal and societal opprobrium. Maybe in the very unlikely corner of the world called The Skintight Lounge and Cinema a small step is being taken to get beyond straight, beyond Gay, beyond, I mean, the arbitrariness and illusion and habit of sexual preference.

Repeat after me: "I will not judge people by their looks. I will not judge people by their looks. I will not judge people by their looks. I will not judge people by their looks . . ."

Ronnettte

Manhunt Revue
Skintight Lounge
Fri., Sat., 8 p.m.
Sun. (winners), 7:30 p.m.

SWEET LIPS SEZ . . .

Have a Gay Week!

DICK WALTERS

Hope you all have a great Lesbian/Gay Freedom Week and that you get to enjoy the parade this year.

At 10 a.m. this Sunday at Googie's, 688 Geary St., Bobby Docca, travel entrepreneur, and the GSL Commissioner, will draw the winning ticket for the trip to Mexico, or \$750, whichever the winner decides on. There are still a few tickets left at only a donation of \$1, and it benefits the Googie's softball team. Cha Cha and the team will also be serving a continental breakfast that morning, so come on down and join in the festivities, as you could be the winner.

Did you know that Empress Mae is holding forth on the plank at the Blue and Gold on Turk Street? According to Peggy, she is doing a great job, so drop by and say hi.

The one and only Henri Leleu is up and about and "stirring" again after having had two heart attacks. They can't keep a good old girl down; can they, Henri?

Land's End at California and Polk, with Darryl Glied on the planks, is already celebrating its First Anniversary — Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, June 29 to July 1. They will have food, entertainment, and many surprises. So drop in and join them

on this happy occasion.

Thank you, Jesse, Mr. Hunk(y) of the Polk Gulch Saloon, for the note and the "sweets." Hope you liked the picture.

Dolly Dale, how come your temporary date, Stark, calls you a slut? We know; don't we, Stark?

Have you met Bill Armitton, the doorman at the Giraffe on Polk Street, who is known as The Puerto Rican Bombshell? Thank you, Carl.

Incidentally, Happy Birthday to Carl Younger on Monday the 25th. I hear that Larry is having a party for him at the Giraffe. Why won't you tell me how old you are, Carl?

Yes, Emperor Bob Pace is on the planks at the Kokpin on Turk Street on Saturday and Sunday days, and Monday and Tuesday nights. Do you always return to the scenes of your former crimes, Bob? And how is Madame LaFarge?

Two nice people from Portland, Dennis and Lori, were down for the La Cage aux Folles opening the other evening and they certainly had a ball. Thanks for the beans, Dennis.

Today is the grand re-opening of the Cable Cars, and great

Nob Hill is 15

This Sunday starting at 5 p.m. the Nob Hill Cinema will celebrate 15 years of continuous film programming and sexual entertainment. This bastion of cinematic male erotica will offer free of charge to its members (\$10.00 for guest admission) an open bar, buffet, a first run film, porno stars and dancers on stage as highlights for Sunday evening's festivities.

Since 1969, despite persistent police harassment and winning battles in the California Supreme Court, the Nob Hill Cinema has survived and done much to establish fundamental Gay rights. Now a private club, the theater has set a standard for quality erotic entertainment.

In the early days, quality films for public exhibition of nude men were scarce. Soft-core was all that was permissible. 1971 is still the theater's record box-office year, when 202,156 men passed through its turnstile.

The action in the backrow

events are planned for the entire day. Gilmore's at Hyde and California is a great place to watch and drink; right, Paul Ruehl?

Googie's beat Trax, 12-7. It would have been 12-0, but Cha Cha insisted on pitching and let seven runs in and became the losing pitcher. Poor Nooth was robbed of a shutout by Cha Cha.

Bubbles Brown lost their playoff hopes — Cafe Sn. Marcos won. Nooth, you were just wonderful. ■



Fred Halsted, one of porn's first box office stars.

and side rooms always are in competition with the acrobatics on screen and on stage. Sex-ed films to Song of the Loon to Bijou to Chicken & Rice, soft dicks to zucchinis, the rest is history. Gay men have plenty of reasons to celebrate the presence of the Nob Hill Cinema and the active concern of its owners and management over its 15 years of pleasure-seeking existence. ■

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E27

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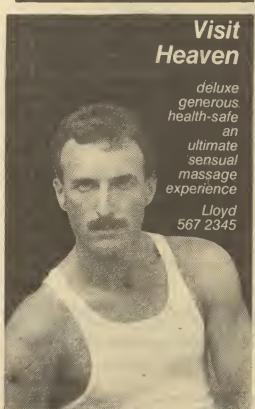
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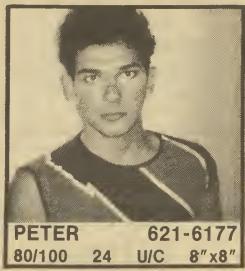
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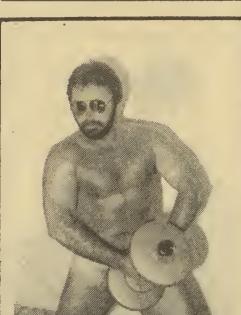
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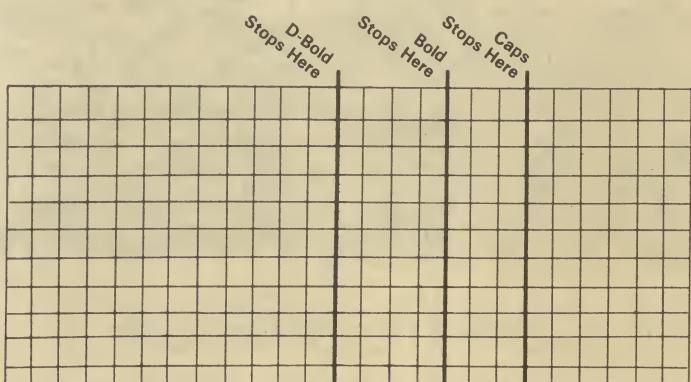
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